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Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Preface -- CHAPTER ONE. The Myth of Westernness in Medieval Literary Historiography -- CHAPTER TWO. Rethinking the Background -- CHAPTER THREE. The Oldest Issue: Courtly Love -- CHAPTER FOUR. The Newest "Discovery": The Muwashshahat -- CHAPTER FIVE. Italy, Dante, and the Anxieties of Influence -- CHAPTER SIX. Other Readers, Other Readings -- Afterword -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Arabic culture was a central and shaping phenomenon in medieval Europe, yet its influence on medieval literature has been ignored or marginalized for the last two centuries. In this ground-breaking book, now returned to print with a new afterword by the author, María Rosa Menocal argues that major modifications of the medieval canon and its literary history are necessary. Menocal reviews the Arabic cultural presence in a variety of key settings, including the courts of William of Aquitaine and Frederick II, the universities in London, Paris, and Bologna, and Cluny under Peter the Venerable, and she examines how our perception of specific texts including the courtly love lyric and the

works of Dante and Boccaccio would be altered by an acknowledgment  
of the Arabic cultural component.

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