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Nota di contenuto	Front Matter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Textual Note -- Preface -- Introduction: Manuscript and Poetics -- Narrative -- Beginnings and Creation -- Experiments in Structure -- Character -- Recasting the Copperplate -- Completing the Four Zoas -- The Revelations of Rahab -- Conclusion: Revisionary Poetics -- The Copperplate Text of Vala -- Stages in the Development of Nights vii through ix of Vala or The Four Zoas -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Using the idea of a "flexible design," John Pierce examines the ways in which Blake's mythology and his poem possess a flexibility that allows for significant change to characters, symbols, and poetic techniques within a previously constructed framework. Pierce traces how, in the process of revision, Blake experimented with characterization, increased the importance of Christian symbolism, and developed a mode of narrative presentation controlled less by chronological sequence than by the use of thematic juxtaposition and typology.