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Autore	Smith D. Vance <1963->
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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 261-281) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Contents; Preliminary; Incipit: A Fourteenth-Century Incipit; Initium: Incipits and the Intentions of Vernacular Writing; Exordium: Making Beginnings: Disposition and Inscription; Thema: The Book That Makes Itself; Origo: Genealogy: Engenderment and Digression; Conditora: The Archive of Grammar: Beginning and Documentary Remembrance; Principium: Beginning Perfection: The Theology of Inception; Notes; Bibliography; Index
Sommario/riassunto	In the first book to examine one of the most peculiar features of one of the greatest and most perplexing poems of England's late Middle Ages—the successive attempts of Piers Plowman to begin, and to keep beginning—D. Vance Smith compels us to rethink beginning, as concept and practice, in both medieval and contemporary terms.