

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910787478003321
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Titolo	Scott, Chaucer, and medieval romance : a study in Sir Walter Scott's indebtedness to the literature of the Middle Ages // Jerome Mitchell
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Lexington, Kentucky : , : The University Press of Kentucky, , 1987 ©1987
ISBN	0-8131-6384-6
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (281 p.)
Disciplina	828/.709
Soggetti	Romances Middle Ages in literature Medievalism - Scotland - History - 19th century Literature, Medieval - History and criticism
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Includes index.
Nota di bibliografia	Bibliography: p. [249]-261.
Nota di contenuto	Cover; Title; Copyright; Contents; Preface; 1. Scott's Knowledge of Medieval Literature; 2. The Narrative Poetry; 3. The Early Novels, 1814-1816; 4. Novels of the Broken Years, 1817-1819; 5. Novels of the High-Noon Period, 1820-1825; 6. Novels of the Dark Days and Servitude, 1826-1832; 7. Style and Structure in the Waverley Novels; 8. Conclusion; Notes; Index; A; B; C; D; E; F; G; H; I; J; K; L; M; N; O; P; Q; R; S; T; U; V; W; Y
Sommario/riassunto	While the influence of Shakespeare on Sir Walter Scott has long been recognized, the importance of medieval literature in shaping his creative imagination has never before been examined in depth. Jerome Mitchell's new book fills this significant gap through a wide-ranging study of Scott's indebtedness to Chaucer and to medieval romance, especially the Middle English romances, for story-patterns, motifs, character types, style and structure, and detail. Mitchell establishes more completely and accurately than any previous critic the extent of Scott's knowledge of medieval literature. His examina