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Nota di contenuto	Preface; Acknowledgments; Contents; Abbreviations; A Note on the Notes and Bibliographies; Part I. The World of Early Monasticism; 1. Roman Egypt; Alexandria; The Gift of the Nile; Early Egyptian Christianity; Monasticism in Egypt: Leaders, Writers, and Texts; Notes; Bibliography; Appendix 1.1. Papyrus: Women and Monasticism; 2. Patriarchs, Councils, and Controversies: 300-451; Alexander, Arius, and the Council of Nicaea; Athanasius; Theophilus; Cyril and the Council of Ephesus; Dioscorus and the Council of Chalcedon; Notes; Bibliography; Appendix 2.1. The Creed of the Council of Nicaea (325) Appendix 2.2. Texts from the Council of Ephesus (431) Appendix 2.3. The Definition of the Council of Chalcedon (451); Part II. Antony and Pachomius; 3. The Life of Antony: Text and Context; The ""Wrath"" of 356; A Physician For Egypt; Audience, Sources, and Genre; Notes; Bibliography; Appendix 3.1. The Letters of Saint Antony; Appendix 3.2. The Letters of Ammonas; 4. The Life of Antony: Themes and Influence;

Christ's Victory over Demons; God Enfleshed, Humanity Deified; The Politics of Orthodoxy; Antony in the Latin West; Notes; Bibliography; Appendix 4.1. Jerome, The Life of Paul of Thebes
 Appendix 4.2. The Many Faces of Antony
 Appendix 4.3. Did Athanasius Really Write the Life of Antony?; 5. Pachomius; The Sources; Early Career; The Koinonia; Later Career; Theodore and Horsiesius; Notes; Bibliography; Appendix 5.1. The Versions of the Life of Pachomius; Appendix 5.2. The Letters of Pachomius; Appendix 5.3. The Letter of Ammon; Appendix 5.4. The Testament of Horsiesius; Appendix 5.5. Did the Nag Hammadi Library Belong to the Pachomians?; Part III. The Desert Fathers; 6. The Apophthegmata Patrum: Text and Context; Abba Antony; The Collections: Alphabetical and Systematic
 ""Abba, Give Me a Word""
 Scetis; Notes; Bibliography; Appendix 6.1. The Many Languages of Desert Literature; Appendix 6.2. Macarius the Egyptian, Letter to the Sons of God; 7. The Apophthegmata Patrum: Portraits; Abba Macarius the Egyptian; Abba John the Little; Abba Moses the Ethiopian; Abba Poemen; Notes; Bibliography; Appendix 7.1. The Famous and Not-So-Famous of the Alphabetical Collection; Appendix 7.2. The Virtues of Abba Macarius the Great; Appendix 7.3. The ""Tree of Obedience""; Appendix 7.4. Zacharius of Sakha, Encomium on the Life of John the Little
 8. The Apophthegmata Patrum: Themes
 Hesychia; The Manifestation of Thoughts; The Demon of Lust; Anger; Blessed Are the Sorrowful; Visions; Scripture; From Oral Word to Written Text; Notes; Bibliography; Appendix 8.1. The Systematic Collections of the Apophthegmata Patrum; Appendix 8.2. Paul of Tamma, On the Cell; Appendix 8.3. Concerning Thoughts (Peri Logismon); Appendix 8.4. Isaiah of Scetis, Asceticon; Appendix 8.5. The Ethiopic Collectio Monastica; 9. The Histories; Nitria; Kellia; Other Sites; Portraits: The Lausiac History; Signs and Wonders: The History of the Monks in Egypt; Notes
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Sommario/riassunto

In this introduction to early Christian monastic literature from Egypt and beyond, the author introduces major figures and literary texts and provides an up-to-date survey of current questions and scholarship in the field.