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Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- List of Illustrations -- Acknowledgments -- List of Abbreviations -- Introduction: Vulnerability and the Countersovereign Voice -- 1. Strategies of Abjection: Parrhsia and the Cruel Beloved from Petrarch's Canzoniere to Scève's Délie -- 2. Violence and the Politics of Imitation in Du Bellay's La Deffence et illustration de la langue françoise and L'Olive -- 3. Martyrdom, Anatomy, and the Ethics of Metaphor in d'Aubigné's L'Hécatombe à Diane and Les Tragiques -- 4. Petrarchan Tyranny and Lyric Resistance in Spenser's Amoretti and The Faerie Queene -- Conclusion: The Paradoxes of Pain: Shakespeare beyond Petrarchism -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Love's Wounds takes an in-depth look at the widespread language of violence and abjection in early modern European love poetry. Beginning in fourteenth-century Italy, this book shows how Petrarch established a pattern of inequality between suffering poet and exalted Beloved rooted in political parrhsia. Sixteenth- and early seventeenth-century French and English poets reshaped his model into an idiom of extravagant brutality coded to their own historical circumstances.

Cynthia N. Nazarian argues that these poets exaggerated the posture of the downtrodden lover, adapting the rhetoric of powerless desire to forge a new "countersovereignty" from within the heart of vulnerability—a potentially revolutionary position through which to challenge cultural, religious, and political authority. Creating a secular equivalent to the martyr, early modern sonneteers crafted a voice that was both critical and unstoppable because it suffered. *Love's Wounds* tracks the development of the countersovereign voice from Francesco Petrarca to Maurice Scève, Joachim du Bellay, Théodore-Agrippa d'Aubigné, Edmund Spenser, and William Shakespeare. Through interdisciplinary and transnational analyses, Nazarian reads early modern sonnets as sites of contestation and collaboration and rewrites the relationship between early modern literary forms.
