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Titolo	The problem of universals from Boethius to John of Salisbury / / by Robert Pinzani
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Nota di contenuto	Front Matter -- Copyright page -- Introduction -- The Problem -- Boethius on General Terms -- The Metaphysical System of Scotus Eriugena -- Realist Theories in the 11th-12th Centuries -- The 'Nominal' Stance: Garland the Computist and Abelard's Literal Glosses1 -- Walter of Mortagne and the Identity Theory -- The De Generibus et Speciebus and the Theory of Collectio -- The Position of Abelard on Porphyry -- Gilbert of Poitiers -- John of Salisbury on Universals -- Back Matter -- Bibliography -- Index.
Sommario/riassunto	The problem of universals is one of the main philosophical issues. In this book the author reconstructs the history of the problem considering a selection of medieval representative texts and authors. The source of medieval and postmedieval debate is identified in the Socratic-Platonic survey on the definition of concepts. In the Categories , Aristotle discusses important topics concerning the relations that exist between logical terms. In particular he establishes a kind of predication principle: categorial terms have a certain predication relation if (and only if) some facts expressed by ordinary sentences hold. The Categories also because of their particular disciplinary status, halfway between logic and metaphysics, leave a number of questions open. Among these questions, a particularly intriguing one is Porphyry's riddle: are there genera and species? And, if there are such things, what are they like?

