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Autore	Honey Maureen
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Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- List of Illustrations -- Acknowledgments -- 1. The Lyric Poetry of Angelina Weld Grimké, Gwendolyn B. Bennett, and Mae V. Cowdery -- 2. Angelina Weld Grimké's Sapphic Temple of Desire -- 3. Harlem's Phoenix: Gwendolyn B. Bennett -- 4. Shattered Mirror: The Failed Promise of Mae V. Cowdery -- Epilogue -- Appendix A: List of Published Poetry -- Appendix B: Selected List of Unpublished Poetry -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Further Reading -- Index -- About the Author
Sommario/riassunto	The Harlem Renaissance was a watershed moment for racial uplift, poetic innovation, sexual liberation, and female empowerment. Aphrodite's Daughters introduces us to three amazing women who were at the forefront of all these developments, poetic iconoclasts who

pioneered new and candidly erotic forms of female self-expression. Maureen Honey paints a vivid portrait of three African American women-Angelina Weld Grimké, Gwendolyn B. Bennett, and Mae V. Cowdery-who came from very different backgrounds but converged in late 1920's Harlem to leave a major mark on the literary landscape. She examines the varied ways these poets articulated female sexual desire, ranging from Grimké's invocation of a Sapphic goddess figure to Cowdery's frank depiction of bisexual erotics to Bennett's risky exploration of the borders between sexual pleasure and pain. Yet Honey also considers how they were united in their commitment to the female body as a primary source of meaning, strength, and transcendence. The product of extensive archival research, *Aphrodite's Daughters* draws from Grimké, Bennett, and Cowdery's published and unpublished poetry, along with rare periodicals and biographical materials, to immerse us in the lives of these remarkable women and the world in which they lived. It thus not only shows us how their artistic contributions and cultural interventions were vital to their own era, but also demonstrates how the poetic heart of their work keeps on beating.

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