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Sommario/riassunto

The papers in this book respond to the public debate over literary canons, in the United States, and elsewhere, by placing the political-ideological aspects of the conflict inside perspectives derived from comparative literature. Canons are seen by most of the contributors as based on democratic and communal intentions or choices inevitable filtered through and colored by historical experiences and social biases. An examination of the canonical process over many centuries reveals both the impressive durability of its elements and the amazing flexibility of its outlines.
