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Sommario/riassunto	In response to the classic question whether Don Quixote is true to life, Felix Martinez-Bonati defines it as an unrealistic allegory of realism. He maintains that Cervantes's novel presents an ironized universe of literature that plays with the contradictions of traditional wisdom and the variety and limitations of literary forms-including those of verisimilitude. Drawing on Aristotle's Poetics, on the idealist and romantic traditions that originate in Kant, Schiller, Schelling, Hegel, and Coleridge, and on contemporary critical theory, Martinez-Bonati describes the stylistic matrix of Don Quixote as a combination of semirealism, romance fantasy, and comedy. He provides fresh insights into the character of Cervantes's imagination, the composition and unity of Don Quixote, and its generic structure, rhetorical force, and metafictional intentionality.