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	Sommario/riassunto	Literature and science are two disciplines are two disciplines often thought to be unrelated, if not actually antagonistic. But Robert J. Scholnick points out that these areas of learning, up through the beginning of the nineteenth century, ""were understood as parts of a unitary endeavor."" By mid-century they had diverged, but literature and science have continued to interact, conflict, and illuminate each

other. In this innovative work, twelve leaders in this emerging interdisciplinary field explore the long engagement of American writers with science and uncover science's conflicting meani