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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	""Contents""; ""Acknowledgments""; ""Note on Citations of the Decameron""; ""Introduction: A Rhetoric of the Decameron (and why women should read it)""; ""1 Woman as Witness""; ""2 Fiammetta v. Dioneo""; ""3 Boccaccio's Sexed Thought""; ""4 To Transvest Not to Transgress""; ""5 Women's Witty Words: Restrictions on Their Use""; ""6 Men, Women, and Figurative Language in the Decameron""; ""7 Domestic Violence in the Decameron""; ""Conclusion""; ""Notes""; ""Works Cited""; ""Index""; ""A""; ""B""; ""C""; ""D""; ""E""; ""F""; ""G""; ""H""; ""I""; ""J""; ""K""; ""L""; ""M""; ""N""; ""O""; ""P""; ""R""; ""S""; ""t""; ""v""; ""w""; ""z""
Sommario/riassunto	Both a passionate denunciation of masculinist readings of the Decameron and a meticulous critique of previous feminist analyses, Marilyn Migiel's A Rhetoric of the Decameron offers a sophisticated re-examination of the representations of women, men, gender identity, sexuality, love, hate, morality, and truth in Boccaccio's masterpiece. The Decameron stages an ongoing, dynamic, and spirited debate about issues as urgent now as in the fourteenth century ? a debate that can only be understood if the Decameron's rhetorical objectives and

strategies are completely reconceived. Addressing herself equally to those who argue for a proto-feminist Boccaccio ? a quasi-liberal champion of women's autonomy ? and to those who argue for a positivistically secure historical Boccaccio who could not possibly anticipate the concerns of the twenty-first century, Migiel challenges readers to pay attention to Boccaccio's language, to his pronouns, his passives, his echolalia, his patterns of repetition, and his figurative language. She argues that human experience, particularly in the sexual realm, is articulated differently by the Decameron's male and female narrators, and refutes the notion that the Decameron offers an undifferentiated celebration of Eros. Ultimately, Migiel contends, the stories of the Decameron suggest that as women become more empowered, the limitations on them, including the threat of violence, become more insistent.

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