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Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Preface -- Contents -- Short Titles and Abbreviations -- Historical Table -- Introduction and Historical Contexts -- Chapter One: Studies and early cultural criticism -- Chapter Two: Guardini, Goethe, Nietzsche and literature theology -- Chapter Three: The George-Kreis, myth and the Conservative Revolution -- Chapter Four: Volk, deutsche Seele and the "Staat-Kirche-Gesellschaft" totality -- Chapter Five: Nazi Germany and Stimmen der Zeit -- Chapter Six: Erich Przywara and Karl Barth -- Chapter Seven: The anti-modern anti-Semitic complex -- Chapter Eight: Renouveau Catholique, Neo-Scholasticism and Nouvelle Théologie -- Bibliography -- Name Index
Sommario/riassunto	Although Hans Urs von Balthasar's earliest publication is from 1925, and although he was a mature forty years old in 1945, there is a deficiency in the secondary literature regarding his early literature, its historical backgrounds and non-theological sources. In this study Balthasar is presented in relation to the various contexts in which he was both drawing upon and responding to from the 1920's to the

1940's. The major contexts analyzed here are the broad central European Germanophone cultural context, the Germanophone Catholic cultural context, the German studies context, the French Catholic renewal literature and theology of the early 20th-century, the popular journal *Stimmen der Zeit*, Neo-Scholasticism, early 20th-century French Catholic culture, Swiss fascism, National Socialist literature, the *Renouveau Catholique*, the *George-Kreis* and many others. Balthasar's early anti-Semitism and some of the problematic aspects of his early work are also addressed in this study. His understanding of the modern age, his relationships with some key intellectual figures and his later reflections on his early work are also introduced. The book offers a comprehensive study of Balthasar's early intellectual development.

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