

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910820246903321
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Titolo	The book of Kyng Arthur : the unity of Malory's Morte Darthur // Charles Moorman
Pubbl/distr/stampa	[Lexington, Kentucky] : , : University Press of Kentucky, , 1965 ©1965
ISBN	0-8131-6378-1
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (137 p.)
Disciplina	823.2
Soggetti	Arthurian romances - History and criticism Rhetoric, Medieval
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Includes index.
Nota di contenuto	Cover; Title; Copyright; Acknowledgments; Contents; Prologue; One: The Chronology of the Morte Darthur; Two: The Failure in Love: Iancelot and Guinevere; Three: The Failure in Religion: The Quest of the Sankgreall; Four: The Failure in Chivalry: Lot and Pellinore; Five: All Whole Together; Notes; Index; A; B; C; D; E; F; G; H; I; J; K; L; M; N; O; P; Q; R; S; T; U; V; W
Sommario/riassunto	Beginning with a consideration of Malory's ingenious chronology, this study shows that Malory achieved thematic and structural unity by selecting from the great mass of Arthurian legend three narrative strands -- the intrigues of Lancelot and Guinevere, the Grail quest, and the feud between the houses of Lot and Pellinore -- using these to illustrate a single theme -- the rise, flowering, and downfall of an ideal civilization. This selection and use of diverse materials, Charles Moorman asserts, indicates clearly that Malory set to work with a preconceived plan and that he did achieve his purp