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Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Table of Contents -- Abbreviations -- List of Tables -- Foreword and Acknowledgements -- Chapter 1 / Introduction: The Quranic Noah and the Re-mapping of Early Islamic Studies -- Chapter 2 / Tracing the Apocalyptic Noah in Pre-Islamic Jewish and Christian Literature -- Excursus. A Lost Apocalypse of Noah? -- Chapter 3 / Noah in the Qur'n: An Overview -- Excursus A. Full text and translation of the quranic Noah narratives -- Excursus B. Quranic allusions to Noah outside the quranic Noah narratives -- Chapter 4 / The Quranic Noah Narratives: Form, Content, Context, and Primary Meaning -- Excursus. Reworked texts in the quranic Noah narratives -- Chapter 5 / Reading Between the Lines: The Quranic Noah Narratives as Witnesses to the Life of the Quranic Prophet? -- Excursus A. The original story behind the Noah narratives in Q 11 and 71 -- Excursus B. Q 11:35,49 and the redactional scribal background of the Qur'n -- Chapter 6 / Reading Backwards: Sources and Precedents of the Quranic Noah -- Excursus. A Syriac source behind the blessing of Noah in Q 37: 78-81? -- Chapter 7 / Reading Forward: From the Quranic Noah to the Muhammadan Evangelium -- Excursus A. Ibn Isq's original Noah narrative -- Excursus B. Re-imagining ancient messianic roles:

Prophets, messiahs and charismatic leaders in the literature of Second Temple Judaism and earliest Christianity -- Afterword: Reading Otherwise, or Re-imagining Muhammad as a New Messiah -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index of Ancient Writings -- Index of Ancient and Modern Authors

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## Sommario/riassunto

Still in its infancy because of the overly conservative views and methods assumed by the majority of scholars working in it since the mid-19th century, the field of early Islamic and quranic studies is one in which the very basic questions must nowadays be addressed with decision. Accordingly, this book tries to resituate the Qur'n at the crossroads of the conversations of old, to which its parabiblical narratives witness, and explores how Muhammad's image – which was apparently modelled after that of the anonymous prophet repeatedly alluded to in the Qur'n – originally matched that of other prophets and/or charismatic figures distinctive in the late-antique sectarian milieu out of which Islam gradually emerged. Moreover, it contends that the Quranic Noah narratives provide a first-hand window into the making of Muhammad as an eschatological prophet and further examines their form, content, purpose, and sources as a means of deciphering the scribal and intertextual nature of the Qur'an as well as the Jewish-Christian background of the messianic controversy that gave birth to the new Arab religion. The previously neglected view that Muhammad was once tentatively thought of as a new Messiah challenges our common understanding of Islam's origins.

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