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| Nota di contenuto | Front matter -- Contents -- Illustrations -- Preface -- Abbreviations -- Introduction -- 1. Conceptualizing Egypt -- 2. Callimachean Theogonies -- 3. Theocritean Regencies -- 4. Apollonian Cosmologies -- 5. The Two Lands -- Select Bibliography -- Index of Passages Cited -- Index |
| Sommario/riassunto | When, in the third century B.C.E., the Ptolemies became rulers in Egypt, they found themselves not only kings of a Greek population but also pharaohs for the Egyptian people. Offering a new and expanded understanding of Alexandrian poetry, Susan Stephens argues that poets such as Callimachus, Theocritus, and Apollonius proved instrumental in bridging the distance between the two distinct and at times diametrically opposed cultures under Ptolemaic rule. Her work |

successfully positions Alexandrian poetry as part of the dynamic in which Greek and Egyptian worlds were bound to interact socially, politically, and imaginatively. The Alexandrian poets were image-makers for the Ptolemaic court, *Seeing Double* suggests; their poems were political in the broadest sense, serving neither to support nor to subvert the status quo, but to open up a space in which social and political values could be imaginatively re-created, examined, and critiqued. *Seeing Double* depicts Alexandrian poetry in its proper context-within the writing of foundation stories and within the imaginative redefinition of Egypt as "Two Lands"-no longer the lands of Upper and Lower Egypt, but of a shared Greek and Egyptian culture.
