Record Nr. UNINA9910821562603321 Heffernan Thomas J. <1944-> Autore Titolo Sacred biography: Saints and their biographers in the Middle Ages // Thomas J. Heffernan New York; ,: Oxford University Press, , 2023 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 0-19-774099-5 0-19-536001-X 0-19-802195-X Edizione [New ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (348 p.) Oxford scholarship online Collana Disciplina 820/.9/382 Soggetti Christian literature, English (Middle) - History and criticism Christian literature, Latin (Medieval and modern) - History and criticism Christian saints - Legends - History and criticism Christianity and literature - History - To 1500 Christian hagiography - History - To 1500 Literary form - History - To 1500 Christian saints in literature Biography as a literary form Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Previously issued in print: 1992. Nota di bibliografia Bibliography: p300-318. - Includes index. Contents; 1 From Logos to Canon: The Making of a Saint's Life; 2 Nota di contenuto Sacred Biography as Historical Narrative: Testing the Tradition, Gibbon to Gadamer; 3 Sanctity in the Cloister: Walter Daniel's Vita Sancti Aelredi and Rhetoric; 4 A Theology of Behavior: Communio Sanctorum and the Use of Sources; 5 The Passion of Saints Perpetua and Felicitas and the Imitatio Christi; 6 Virgin Mothers; Select Bibliography; Index; A; B; C; D; E; F; G; H; I; J; K; L; M; N; O; P; Q; R; S; T; U; V; W; X; Y; Z Sommario/riassunto Modern historiography dismisses the medieval lives of saints about whom little was really known as "pious fiction". This study demonstrates that to characterize the genre as fiction is to misunderstand the intentions of medieval authors, who were neither

credulous nor blinded by piety.