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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	The ends of first sf : pioneers as veterans -- After the new wave : after science fiction? -- Beyond Apollo : space fictions after the moon landing -- Big dumb objects : science fiction as self-parody -- The rise of fantasy : swords and planets -- Home of the extraterrestrial brothers : race and African American science fiction -- Alien invaders : Vietnam and the counterculture -- This septic isle : post-imperial melancholy -- Foul contagion spread : ecology and environmentalism -- Female counter-literature : feminism -- Strange bedfellows : gay liberation -- Saving the family? Children's fiction -- Eating the audience : blockbusters -- Chariots of the gods : pseudoscience and parental fears -- Towers of Babel : the arcitecture of sf -- Ruptures : metafiction and postmodernism.
Sommario/riassunto	Science fiction produced in the 1970s has long been undervalued, dismissed by Bruce Sterling as "confused, self-involved, and stale." The New Wave was all but over and Cyberpunk had yet to arrive. The decade polarised sf - on the one hand it aspired to be a serious form, addressing issues such as race, Vietnam, feminism, ecology and sexuality, on the other hand it broke box office records with Star Wars, Close Encounters of the Third Kind, Alien and Superman: The Movie. Across the political spectrum, writers perceived a series of invisible

enemies: radicals addressed the ideological structures of racism, sexism, homophobia, colonialism, pollution and capitalism and the possibility of new social structures, whereas conservatives feared the gains made by the civil rights movement, feminism, gay liberation, independence movements, ecology and Marxism and the perceived threats to the nuclear family. Sf would never be the same again. Beginning with chapters on the First sf and New Wave authors who published during the 1970s, *Solar Flares* examines the ways in which the genre confronted a new epoch and its own history, including the rise of fantasy, the sf blockbuster, children's sf, pseudoscience and postmodernism. It explores significant figures such as Joanna Russ, Samuel R. Delany and Octavia Butler. From Larry Niven's *Ringworld* to Thomas M. Disch's *On Wings of Song*, from *The Andromeda Strain* to *Flash Gordon* and from *Doctor Who* to *Buck Rogers*, this book reclaims seventies sf writing, film and television - alongside music and architecture - as a crucial period in the history of science fiction.
