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Autore	Urfahli Bilal
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Nota di contenuto	Preliminary Material -- 1 The Art of Anthology in Premodern Arabic Literature -- 2 Life and Legacy of Thalib -- 3 An Anthologist at Work: The Organization and Structure of the Yatma and Tatimma -- 4 The Sources of Thalib in Yatmat al-Dahr and Tatimmat al-Yatma -- 5 Material within the Entry -- Conclusion -- Appendices -- Bibliography -- Index.
Sommario/riassunto	Why did premodern authors in the Arabic-Islamic culture compile literary anthologies, and why were these works remarkably popular? How can an anthology that consists of reproduced material be original and creative, and serve various literary and political ends? How did anthologists select their material, then record and arrange it? This book examines the life and works of Ab Manr al-Thalib (350–429/961–1039), an eminent anthologist from Nshpr, paying special attention to his magnum opus, Yatmat al-dahr (The Unique Pearl), and its sequel, Tatimmat al-Yatma (The Completion of the Yatma). This book is a direct window on to an anthologist's workshop in the second half of the fourth/tenth century. It examines the methodological consciousness expressed in Thalib's selection and arrangement, and his sophisticated system of internal references and cross-references to other works; how he selected from his contemporaries' oeuvres; how he sought, recorded, memorized, misplaced, and sometimes lost or forgot his selections; how he scrutinized the authenticity of material, accepting, questioning, or

rejecting its attribution; and the errors and inconsistencies that resulted from this process.
