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Nota di contenuto	The SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN BOOK OF LOVE, SEX, AND THE BRAIN; ACKNOWLEDGMENTS; PREFACE: WHO DO YOU LOVE?; Introduction: What Is This Thing Called Love?; So What Is Love?; Love Is a Many Splendored Thing-and the Greeks Had a Word for All of the Types; The Basics of Your Brain in Love and Sex; I've Got You Under My Skull: Love in Your Brain; You Make Me Feel So Good: The Pleasure Center; The Very Thought of You; How Scientists Research Love and Sex in Your Brain; CHAPTER ONE: Born to Love: Why People Need People; Do You See What I See? How Mirror Neurons Connect Us The Dangers of Involuntary Mind MergingThe Chemistry of Love; Love Is Everywhere: Where Love Grows in the Brain; A Brain Unable to Love: Inside the Brain of a Psychopath; Baby Face, You've Got the Cutest Little Baby Face; CHAPTER TWO: Learning to Love; How Your Parents Affect Your Love Life; Love at First Sight: The Earliest Lessons in Love; If You

Could Read My Mind: Moms Do; A Mother's Everlasting Love; How Parenting Primes Your Brain for Love; Parenting Rewires the Daddy Brain as Well; How Father Love Feeds Both Brains; Postpartum Depression: Misery for Mom and Baby  
 Loving the One Who Hurts You: Why Children Cling to Abusers What If Things Went Wrong with That First Love?; In the End: Do Parents Matter?; CHAPTER THREE: His Brain, Her Brain, Gay Brain, and Other Brains; How Real Are the Differences?; His Brain, Her Brain: The Geography; So What Does This Have to Do with Love?; Our Changeable Brains; Some Myths About Male and Female Brains: True or False?; Toujours Gay: The Gay Brain Is Born That Way; Can Animals Be Gay? Better to Call It Bisexual; I Am What I Am; The Third Gender: When Gender and Sex Do Not Align  
 Are There Asexuals Among Us? On the Possibility of a Fourth Sexual Orientation CHAPTER FOUR: That Old Black Magic: Your Brain in Love; How Love and Sex Are Good for Your Brain; When Love Occupies Your Brain; Who Do You Love? And Who Loves Ya, Baby?; You've Got That Lovin' Feelin', But What Turns You On?; You Go to My Nose: The Power of Smell over Sex; A Kiss Is (More Than) Just a Kiss; You Light Up My Brain; What's Love Got to Do with It? Plenty It Turns Out for Women; Need Some Love Potion? Try a Bit of Oxytocin Spray; I'll Have What She's Having: What Makes a Better Female Orgasm?  
 Does the Penis Have a Brain of Its Own? When Things Go Wrong: A Fine Romance; CHAPTER FIVE: Friendship, Such a Perfect Blendship: Or, with a Little Help from My Friends; Is Friendship Declining?; Are You Lonesome Tonight? 60 Million Other Americans Are; You've Got a Friend or You Should!; Widening the Social Circle; Imaginary Friends: TV Characters Can Ease Your Pain; Until the Real Thing Comes Along: Your Brain on Facebook; Work, the "Other Love" in Your Life; Can Animals Love? Yes, and More; How to Make Friends; CHAPTER SIX: Only You Can Make My Dreams Come True: Let's Get Married  
 Grow Old Along with Me: The Marriage Benefits

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## Sommario/riassunto

"A fascinating look at how the brain controls our relationships and romances. Neuroscientists, psychologists, and most men and women readers today have learned that the brain is Grand Central Station for our most erotic associations, memories, and secret desires. The latest research shows that the popular myth is true: Sexual orientation and identity is hard-wired, the result of our neurological predisposition, not a choice or result of socialization. We instinctively crave connection and relationship as an essential part of our well-being, self-esteem, and pleasure. The process of achieving and recovering from orgasm ignites the same pleasure centers in the brain as exercise, music, religion, food, alcohol, and drugs. Sexual desire can be triggered by a thought, a smell, a touch, or the sight of an object of desire. These sensorium are located at different parts of the brain, and can be activated indefinitely into our senior years. Filled with little known and fascinating information about the brain. The third Scientific American book in the series about the brain. The core science and latest research is drawn from the prestigious Scientific American and Scientific American Mind magazines"--

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