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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	The bedouin, the camel, the sand, and the palm tree -- Identity and self-definition -- Ibn Khaldun's appraisal appraised -- "Arabizing the Arabs" -- Self-images old and new -- Calls for "critical self-analysis" -- Unity in diversity -- The quest for democracy -- Resources and development -- The social scene -- The case of Egypt -- The West's inroads -- The difference Israel has made new lessons for old -- The intellectuals -- Appendix : portraits in a mirror : three fictional versions.
Sommario/riassunto	What is an Arab? Though many in the West would answer that question with simplistic stereotypes, the reality is far more complex and interesting. Arabs themselves have been debating Arab identity since pre-Islamic times, coming to a variety of conclusions about the nature and extent of their "Arabness." Likewise, Westerners and others have.