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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 221-284) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Italy's ambivalent modernity -- Genus italicum -- Did Italian romanticism exist? -- Italy without Italians: Goethe, Stael, and Foscolo -- The death of Italy and birth of European romanticism -- Heirs of a dark wood -- Dante and autobiography in the age of Voltaire -- Alfieri's Prince, Dante, and the romantic self -- Wordsworth, Dante, and British romantic identity -- Corpus italicum -- Italy as woman and wound, Dante to Leopardi -- The body of Parini -- Italy's broken heart.
Sommario/riassunto	In this groundbreaking study, unique in English, Joseph Luzzi considers Italian Romanticism and the modern myth of Italy. Ranging across European and international borders, he examines the metaphors, facts, and fictions about Italy that were born in the Romantic age and continue to haunt the global literary imagination. The themes of the book include the emergence of Italy as the "world's university" (Goethe) and "mother of arts" (Byron), the influence of Dante's Commedia on

Romantic autobiography, and the representation of the Italian body politic as a woman at home and abroad. Luzzi also provides a critical reevaluation of the three crowns of Italian Romantic letters-Ugo Foscolo, Giacomo Leopardi, and Alessandro Manzoni-profoundly influential writers largely undiscovered in Anglo-American criticism. Reaching out to academic and general readers alike, the book offers fresh insights into the influence of Italian literary, cultural, and intellectual traditions on the foreign imagination from the Romantic age to the present.
