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Nota di contenuto	Cover -- Title Page -- Copyright -- Contents -- Preface -- List of Abbreviations -- 1. The Question of Reading -- The Question of Genre -- Mithras's Interpretation of The Golden Ass -- Hermeneutic Entertainment -- Historical Context -- Overview -- Part One. Truth -- 2. The Interpretation of Tales -- Introduction -- Aristomenes' Tale of Socrates (1.2-20) -- Lucius's Account of Lucius (1.26) -- Milo's Tale of Diophanes (2.11-15) -- The Ass Reporter -- Two Women's Stories -- 3. The Scrupulous Reader -- Detection -- Sensation! -- 4. The Contract -- Playing Fair -- Malice Aforethought -- Implication -- The Marketplace of Desire -- 5. Interlude: Socrates in Motley -- Part Two. Consequences -- 6. The Duplicities of Auctor / Actor -- The Narrator (Auctor) as Character (Actor) and the Character of the Narrator -- Suppression of the Auctor-Narrator -- From Auctor-Narrator to Auctor-Novelist, and Back Again -- 7. The Prologue as Conundrum -- The Origin of the Book -- Egyptian Sharpness -- Mutual Nexus -- The Rude Speaker's Identity -- A Model for the Speaker's Identity -- 8. The Text Questions, the Reader Answers -- Three Difficulties -- The Isiac Interpretation of Lucius's Life -- Surprises at Rome: Money and More Initiations -- The Final Image -- How Else Could This Book Be Read? --

Part Three. Conjectures -- 9. Parody Lost and Regained -- Three Tales of the Ass -- The Restless Quest for Wisdom -- Apuleius's Adaptation of the Parody -- 10. Isis and Aesop -- Why Isis? -- The Life of Aesop -- The Grotesque Perspective -- 11. The Gilding of the Ass -- The External Case for Asinus Aureus -- The Meaning of the Title -- Select Bibliography -- Index Locorum -- Index.

Sommario/riassunto

Addressed to readers of modern literature as well as to those interested in Greco-Roman literature and in religious history, Auctor and Actor examines Apuleius's *The Golden Ass* as an early example of self-consciousness in narrative. Entering into the spirit of the novel's crafty playfulness, John J. Winkler carries the reader on a journey that is, like that of the hero Lucius, both entertaining and enlightening. This title is part of UC Press's *Voices Revived* program, which commemorates University of California Press's mission to seek out and cultivate the brightest minds and give them voice, reach, and impact. Drawing on a backlist dating to 1893, *Voices Revived* makes high-quality, peer-reviewed scholarship accessible once again using print-on-demand technology. This title was originally published in 1986.
