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Nota di contenuto	Literacy in Ireland : the evidence of the Patrick dossier in the Book of Armagh / Jane Stevenson -- Anglo-Saxon lay society and the written word / Susan Kelly -- Administration, law and culture in Merovingian Gaul / Ian Wood -- Literacy and the papal government in late antiquity and the early middle ages / Thomas F.X. Noble -- Literacy and the laity in early mediaeval Spain / Roger Collins -- Aspects of mediaeval Jewish literacy / Stefan C. Reif -- Writing in early mediaeval Byzantium / Margaret Mullett -- Literacy displayed : the use of inscriptions at the monastery of San Vincenzo al Volturno in the early ninth century / John Mitchell -- Royal government and the written word in late Anglo-Saxon England / Simon Keynes -- Literacy in Carolingian government / Janet L. Nelson -- Text and image in the Carolingian world / Rosamond McKitterick.
Sommario/riassunto	This book investigates the ways in which literacy was important in early mediaeval Europe, and examines the context of literacy, its uses, levels, and distribution, in a number of different early mediaeval societies between c. 400 and c. 1000. The studies, by leading scholars in the field, set out to provide the factual basis from which assessments of the significance of literacy in the early mediaeval world can be made, as well as analysing the significance of literacy, its implications, and its consequences for the societies in which we observe it. In all cases, the

studies represent recent research and bring evidence such as the recent archaeological discoveries at San Vincenzo al Volturno to the subject. They provide fascinating insight into the attitudes of early mediaeval societies towards the written word and the degree to which these attitudes were formed. This period is shown as fundamental for the subsequent uses of literacy in mediaeval and modern Europe.

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