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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 239-243) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction: cosmopolitanism, narrative, history -- Voltaire's neoclassical poetics of history -- European contexts in Hume's History of England -- William Robertson to the rescue of Scottish history -- Robertson on the triumph of Europe and its empires -- Emulation and revival: Gibbon's Decline and fall of the Roman Empire -- David Ramsay's sceptical history of the American Revolution -- Afterwood -- Selected secondary studies of the work of individual historians -- Selected general studies of historical writing in the eighteenth century.
Sommario/riassunto	Narratives of Enlightenment is an interdisciplinary study of cosmopolitan approaches to the past. It reappraises the work of five of the most important narrative historians of the century - Voltaire, David Hume, William Robertson, Edward Gibbon and the historian of the American Revolution, David Ramsay - in the context of political and national debates in France, Scotland, England and America; and it investigates the nature and degree of their intellectual investment in the idea of a common European civilisation. Karen O'Brien combines the methodologies of literary criticism and intellectual history to explore debates about Enlightenments and the political uses of narrative. Where

previous studies have emphasised the growth of nationalism in eighteenth-century literature, she reveals the development of cosmopolitan ways of thinking beyond national cultural issues.
