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The increasing evidence of Islam as Italy's second religion is an issue of undeniable importance. It has generated an intense and often polarized debate that has involved all the cultural, political and religious institutions of the country. This study examines some of the most significant voices that have made themselves heard in defining Italy's relationship with Islam and with the Islamic world, from 9/11 to the Arab Spring. It looks in detail at the nature of the arguments that writers, journalists and intellectuals have adduced and at the connections and disjunctions between opposing positions. This book examines how events such as military intervention in Afghanistan and Iraq or the protests in Tahrir Square have been represented and it analyses the rhetorical framework within which the issue of the emergence of Islam as an internal actor within Italian civil society has been articulated.

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Representations and Reflections,
from 9/11 to the Arab Uprisings

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