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Autore	Valmiki
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Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- List of Abbreviations -- Preface -- Guide to Sanskrit Pronunciation -- Part I. Introduction -- 1. General Introduction -- 2. History and Historicity -- 3. Introduction to the Blaka -- 4. The Rmyaa Text and the Critical Edition / Pollock, Sheldon I. -- 5. Translating the Rmyaa / Nathan, Leonard E. -- 6. The Translation and Annotation -- Part II. Blaka -- Glossary of Important Proper Nouns and Epithets -- Bibliography of Works Consulted -- Index -- Backmatter
Sommario/riassunto	This is the first of seven volumes of a translation of the Valmiki Ramayana, the great Sanskrit epic of the life of Rama, ideal man and incarnation of the great god Visnu. This renowned work of ancient India has profoundly affected the literature, art, religions, and cultures of countless millions of people in South and Southeast Asiaan influence that is perhaps unparalleled in the history of world literature. Balakanda, the opening portion of this first translation to be based on the critical edition (Oriental Institute, Baroda), is presented here in a compact volume without the section of notes that appears in the hardcover book.