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	Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references at the end of each chapters.
	Nota di contenuto	Preface Vertebrate Diversity in a Sensory System: The Fossil Record of Otic Evolution Actinopterygians: The Ray-Finned Fishes—an Explosion of Diversity Sarcopterygians: From Lobe-Finned Fishes to the Tetrapod Stem Group Early Tetrapods: Experimenting with Form and Function Nonmammalian Synapsids: The Beginning of the Mammal Line Evolution of the Middle and Inner Ears of Mammaliaforms: The Approach to Mammals Evolution of the Ear of Mammals: From Monotremes to Humans Basal Reptilians, Marine Diapsids, and Turtles: The Flowering of Reptile Diversity The Lepidosaurian Ear: Variations on a Theme Archosaurs and their Kin: The Ruling Reptiles Amphibia: A Case of Diversity and Convergence in the Auditory Region.
	Sommario/riassunto	The evolution of vertebrate hearing is of considerable interest in the hearing community. However, there has never been a volume that has focused on the paleontological evidence for the evolution of hearing and the ear, especially from the perspective of some of the leading paleontologists and evolutionary biologists in the world. Thus, this volume is totally unique, and takes a perspective that has never been taken before. It brings to the fore some of the most recent discoveries among fossil taxa, which have demonstrated the sort of detailed

information that can be derived from the fossil record, illuminating the
evolutionary pathways this sensory system has taken and the diversity
 it had achieved.