1. Record Nr. UNINA9910158617303321 Autore Harding Luke Titolo A Very Expensive Poison: The Assassination of Alexander Litvinenko and Putin's War with the West Pubbl/distr/stampa , : Knopf Doubleday Publishing Group, , 2017 ©2017 **ISBN** 1-101-97400-1 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (311 pages) Disciplina 327.1247 Russia (Federation) Politics and government 21st century Soggetti Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Nota di contenuto Intro -- About the Author -- Other Titles -- Title Page -- Copyright --Contents -- Prologue: The Men from Moscow -- 1. Mafia State -- 2. Journalist, Exile, Campaigner, Spy -- 3. First Deployment -- 4. The German Waiter -- 5. Murder in Mavfair -- 6. A Bit of a Puzzle -- 7. Ruslan and Lyudmila -- 8. An Inspector Calls -- 9. Death of an Oligarch -- 10. Gelsemium elegans -- 11. A Small Victorious War -- 12. The Inquiry -- 13. Leviathan -- 14. Blunt Force -- 15. The Man Who Solved His Own Murder -- A Note on Sources -- Acknowledgements and Photo Credits -- Illustrations. Sommario/riassunto On November 1, 2006, journalist and Russian dissident Alexander Litvinenko was poisoned in London. He died twenty-two days later. The cause of death? Polonium--a rare, lethal, and highly radioactive substance. Here Luke Harding unspools a real-life political assassination story--complete with KGB, CIA, MI6, and Russian mobsters. He shows how Litvinenko's murder foreshadowed the killings of other Kremlin critics, from Washington, DC, to Moscow, and how these are tied to Russia's current misadventures in Ukraine and Syria. In doing so, he becomes a target himself and unearths a chain of corruption and death leading straight to Vladimir Putin. From his investigations of the downing of flight MH17 to the Panama Papers. Harding sheds a terrifying light on Russia's fracturing relationship with

the West.