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Nota di contenuto	1. Introduction: the global in the family -- 2. Adoption and family in the Global North and South -- 3. The making of the adoptive family: choosing family -- 4. The un-making of the family of origin: adoption social workers as intermediaries -- 5. First mothers' stunted choices -- 6. Inequality among first mothers: the power of resources -- 7. Re-making family: the struggle over belonging -- 8. Contact over time -- 9. Conclusion: re-kinning first mothers .
Sommario/riassunto	This book looks at the simultaneous processes of making and un-making of families that are part of the adoption practice. Whereas most studies on transnational adoption concentrate on the adoptive family, the author identifies not only the happy occasion when a family gains a child, but also the sorrow and loss of the child to its family of origin. Situating transnational adoption in the context of the Global North-South divide, Högbacka investigates the devastating effects of unequal life chances and asymmetrical power relations on the adoption process and on the mothers whose children are adopted. Based on unique primary material gathered in in-depth interviews with South African families of origin and Finnish adoptive families, the book investigates the decision-making processes of both sets of parents and the encounters between them. The first mothers' narratives are juxtaposed

with those of the adopters and of the adoption social workers who act on the principles of the wider adoption system. Concluding with a critique of the Global Northism that exemplifies current practices, Högbäck sketches the contours of a more just approach to transnational adoption that would shatter rather than perpetuate inequality. The book can also be read as an exposé of the consequences of current inequalities for poor families. *Global Families, Inequality and Transnational Adoption* will be of interest to students and scholars of adoption studies, family and kinship, sociology, anthropology, social work and development. .

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