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Sommario/riassunto	This ebook consists of a summary of the ideas, viewpoints and facts presented by Philip Alcabes in his book "Dread: How fear and Fantasy have Fueled Epidemics from the Black Death to the Avian Flu". This summary offers a concise overview of the entire book in less than 30 minutes reading time. However this work does not replace in any case Philip Alcabes' book. Alcabes examines epidemics and shows how these reflect the social and cultural anxieties of the time.