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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [218]-235) and index.
Nota di contenuto	New historicism -- Cultural materialism -- An argument against anti-humanism -- Solutions -- Shakespeare's historical and political thought in context -- Personal action and agency in Henry VI -- Ideology in Richard II and Henry IV.
Sommario/riassunto	Boldly moves criticism of Shakespeare's history plays beyond anti-humanist theoretical approaches. This important intervention in the critical and theoretical discourse of Shakespeare studies summarises, evaluates and ultimately calls time on the mode of criticism that has prevailed in Shakespeare studies over the past thirty years. It heralds a new, more dynamic way of reading Shakespeare as a supremely intelligent and creative political thinker, whose history plays address and illuminate the very questions with which cultural historians have been so preoccupied since the 1980s. In providing