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Nota di contenuto	List of Illustrations -- Acknowledgements -- 1. Introduction -- 2. Symptoms of the "unnaturalness of an institution"? Trials and tribulations on the way to the throne -- 3. "The love of the people ... needs to be acquired." Competence and the paths of monarchical persuasion -- 4. "I and my house feel at one with my people!" Telling the tale of a popular tribal monarchy -- 5. "We do not want to be regarded as lesser brothers" Royal heirs in the German Reich and the challenges of particularism -- 6. "My government will ..." Variations on a future theme -- 7. Conclusion -- Bibliography.
Sommario/riassunto	This book explores the development and viability of Germany's sub-national monarchies in the decades before their sudden demise in 1918. It does so by focusing on the men who turned out to be the last ones to inherit the crowns of the country's three smaller kingdoms: Prince Ludwig of Bavaria, Prince Friedrich August of Saxony and Prince Wilhelm of Württemberg. Imperial Germany was not a monolithic block, but a motley federation of more than twenty allied regional monarchies, headed by the Kaiser. When the German Reich became a republic at the end of the First World War, all of these kings, grand dukes, dukes and princes were swept away within a fortnight. By examining the lives, experiences and functions of these three men as heirs to the throne

during the decades when they prepared themselves for their predestined role as king, this study investigates what the future of the German model of constitutional monarchy looked like before it was so abruptly discarded.

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