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Titolo	Essential Vulnerabilities [[electronic resource]] : Plato and Levinas on Relations to the Other // Deborah Achtenberg
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Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xii, 212 pages)
Collana	Rereading ancient philosophy
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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Violence -- Freedom -- Creation -- Knowledge -- Time and the self -- Violence, freedom, creation, knowledge -- Glory and shine -- Conclusion.
Sommario/riassunto	In <i>Essential Vulnerabilities</i> , Deborah Achtenberg contests Emmanuel Levinas's idea that Plato is a philosopher of freedom for whom thought is a return to the self. Instead, Plato, like Levinas, is a philosopher of the other. Nonetheless, Achtenberg argues, Plato and Levinas are different. Though they share the view that human beings are essentially vulnerable and essentially in relation to others, they conceive human vulnerability and responsiveness differently. For Plato, when we see beautiful others, we are overwhelmed by the beauty of what is, by the vision of eternal form. For Levinas, we are disrupted by the newness, foreignness, or singularity of the other. The other, for him, is new or foreign, not eternal. The other is unknowable singularity. By showing these similarities and differences, Achtenberg resituates Plato in relation to Levinas and opens up two contrasting ways that self is essentially in relation to others.