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Titolo	Astrobiological Neurosystems : Rise and Fall of Intelligent Life Forms in the Universe // by Jerry L. Cranford
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Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Preface -- Scientists believe intelligent life may be more common in the universe than previously considered possible -- When will mankind achieve "First Contact" with extraterrestrial life forms -- If our nervous system is not the only one that exists in the universe, where are the others and how do we identify them?- Evolution of intelligent nervous systems on other worlds in the universe -- Are biological nervous systems just the first step in the rise of intelligence in the universe? -- Just how hostile is our universe to the development and survival of Life Forms? -- Some Final Thoughts from this "amateur" astronomer on mankind's imminent discovery that we are not alone in the Universe -- References and further suggested readings -- Index.
Sommario/riassunto	This book explains why scientists believe that life may be more common in the Universe than previously considered possible. It presents the tools and strategies astronomers and astrobiologists are

using in their formal search for habitable exoplanets as well as more advanced forms of life in other parts of our galaxy. The author then summarizes what is currently known about how and where organic molecules critical to our form of carbon-based life are manufactured. The core of the book explains (and presents educated guesses) how nervous systems evolved on Earth, how they work, and how they might work on other worlds. Combining his knowledge of neuroscience, computers, and astrobiology the author jumps into the discussion whether biological nervous systems are just the first step in the rise of intelligence in the Universe. The book ends with a description from both the psychologist's and the neuroscientist's viewpoints, exactly what it is about the fields of astrobiology and astronomy that "boggles the minds" of many amateur astronomers and interested non-scientists. This book stands out from other popular science books on astrobiology by making the point that "astro-neurobiologists" need to begin thinking about how alien nervous systems might work.
