Record Nr. UNINA9910330707803321 Autore Piot Charles Titolo The fixer: visa lottery chronicles / / Charles Piot; with Kodjo Nicolas Batema Pubbl/distr/stampa Durham:,: Duke University Press,, 2019 **ISBN** 1-4780-9003-0 1-4780-0342-1 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (214 pages) Collana A theory in forms book Disciplina 304.8/7306681 Soggetti African diaspora Visas - Togo Togolese - Migrations - History - 21st century Togolese - United States Visas - Government policy - United States Emigration and immigration law - United States Togo Emigration and immigration Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese Materiale a stampa **Formato** Livello bibliografico Monografia Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Border practice -- The interview -- Kinship by other means -- Trading futures -- Embassy indiscretions -- Protest -- Prison -- America, here we come -- Lome 2018. Sommario/riassunto In the West African nation of Togo, applying for the U.S. Diversity Visa Lottery is a national obsession, with hundreds of thousands of Togolese entering each year. From the street frenzy of the lottery signup period and the scramble to raise money for the embassy interview, to the gamesmanship of those adding spouses and dependents to their dossiers, the application process is complicated, expensive, and unpredictable. In 'The Fixer' Charles Piot follows Kodjo Nicolas Batema. a Togolese visa broker-known as a "fixer"-as he shepherds his clients through the application and interview process. Relaying the experiences of the fixer, his clients, and embassy officials, Piot

captures the ever-evolving cat-and-mouse game between the embassy

successes of lottery winners in the United States. These detailed and

and the hopeful Togolese, as well as the disappointments and

compelling stories uniquely illustrate the desire and savviness of migrants as they work to find what they hope will be a better life.