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Nota di contenuto	1. Introduction -- 2. Researching Disasters: Theories for a Case Study -- 3. History Seen Through the Slums: The Southern Question and the Current Crisis -- 4. Messina, From the Earthquake to the Present -- 5. Working and Dreaming at the Margins of the City -- 6. Formal and Informal Housing in Today's City -- 7. Messina Today: Representation, Identity, and Mobilization for Change -- 8. Conclusion.
Sommario/riassunto	This book examines the long-lasting consequences of the Messina earthquake, a disaster that struck the city of Messina, Sicily, in 1908. The quake killed 86,000 people and destroyed one of the most important port cities in the Mediterranean. The authors argue that contemporary notions of “disaster economy” and “shock economy” are not specifically features of the present. On the contrary, the elements that characterize contemporary disaster-related speculative processes were largely active at the very beginning of the past century and helped

the formation of the present. In addition to considering the historical significance of the earthquake, the authors pay particular attention to the impact of the earthquake on the structural victims of this enduring disaster: the members of the marginal class of people that emerged from the reconstruction. Through the biographical analysis of the inhabitants of shacks and projects, the study analyzes the intergenerational continuity of the subaltern urban experience. Domenica Farinella, PhD, is a Lecturer in Economic Sociology at the University of Messina, Italy. Pietro Saitta, PhD, is a Senior Lecturer in Sociology at the University of Messina, Italy.
