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Sommario/riassunto	"Sierra Leone's current predicament can best be understood within a continuum spanning its precolonial to its more contemporary history. This study traces the contradictions of the historical legacy and the excesses of the independent nation-state to unravel the sequences of dependency that culminated almost inevitably in political instability

unprecedented socio-economic decline, and civil war.

The authors draw on a rich texture of historical and political insights reflecting established knowledge, while also plumbing contemporary orature to present a truly holistic perspective of this soft state.

Students, scholars, or general readers interested in the dilemmas of developing states will find this essential reading."--Jacket.

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