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Nota di contenuto	1. Introduction -- 2. Women's roles, institutions, and social control -- 3. The Torrone and the prosecution of crimes -- 4. Denunciations and the uses of justice -- 5. Violence and the politics of everyday life -- 6. Theft and its prosecution -- 7. Conclusion -- Appendix: Information on samples -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Female protagonists are commonly overlooked in the history of crime; especially in early modern Italy, where women's scope of action is often portrayed as heavily restricted. This book redresses the notion of Italian women's passivity, arguing that women's crimes were far too common to be viewed as an anomaly. Based on over two thousand criminal complaints and investigation dossiers, Sanne Muurling charts the multifaceted impact of gender on patterns of recorded crime in early modern Bologna. While various socioeconomic and legal mechanisms withdrew women from the criminal justice process, the casebooks also reveal that women - as criminal offenders and savvy litigants - had an active hand in keeping the wheels of the court spinning

