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Nota di contenuto	I. Chronicles of Italian life -- II. Professor in Pisa -- III. The cats of Torino -- IV. Rome, public appointments, the politician -- V. Days of firing from a dirigible -- VI. From war to peace: Italy's National Research Council -- VII. The end of freedom -- VIII. After the cats, fish -- IX. Time runs out -- Appendix I: Significant dates in Italian history 1849-1945 -- Appendix II: Significant dates in the life of Vito Volterra 1860-1940 -- Index of Names.
Sommario/riassunto	Vito Volterra (1860-1940) was one of the most famous representatives of Italian science in his day. Angelo Guerraggio and Giovanni Paolini analyze Volterra's most important contributions to mathematics and their applications, as well as his outstanding organizational achievements in scientific policy. Volterra was one of the founding fathers of functional analysis and the author of fundamental contributions in the field of integral equations, elasticity theory and population dynamics (Lotka-Volterra model). He delivered keynote lectures on the occasion of the International Congresses of Mathematicians held in Paris (1900), Rome (1908), Strasbourg (1920) and Bologna (1928). He became involved in the scientific development in united Italy and was appointed senator of the kingdom in 1905. One of his numerous non-mathematical activities was founding the National

Research Council (Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, CNR). During the First World War he was active in military research. After the war he took a clear stand against fascism, which was the starting point for his exclusion. In 1926 he resigned as president of the world famous Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei and was later on excluded from the academy. In 1931 he was one of the few university lecturers who denied to swear an oath of allegiance to the fascistic regime. In 1938 he suffered from the impact of the racial laws. The authors draw a comprehensive picture of Vito Volterra, both as a great mathematician and an organizer of science.
