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Autore	Posner Richard A
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Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (333 p.)
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Soggetti	Emergency management Disasters Risk assessment Technological innovations - Moral and ethical aspects Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
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Note generali	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	What are catastrophic risks, and how catastrophic are they? -- Why so little is being done about the catastrophic risks -- How to evaluate the catastrophic risks and the possible responses to them -- How to reduce the catastrophic risks.
Sommario/riassunto	Catastrophic risks are much greater than is commonly appreciated. Collision with an asteroid, runaway global warming, voraciously replicating nanomachines, a pandemic of gene-spliced smallpox launched by bioterrorists, and a world-ending accident in a high-energy particle accelerator, are among the possible extinction events that are sufficiently likely to warrant careful study. How should we respond to events that, for a variety of psychological and cultural reasons, we find it hard to wrap our minds around? Posner argues that realism about science and scientists, innovative applications of cost-

benefit analysis, a scientifically literate legal profession, unprecedented international cooperation, and a pragmatic attitude toward civil liberties are among the keys to coping effectively with the catastrophic risks.
