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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [218]-224) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Book Cover; Title; Contents; List of illustrations; Preface; Acknowledgements; Laws in science and philosophy; Humean lawlessness; The lawless world; Regularities and best systems; Hume's argument; Nomological realism; The nomological argument; Natural necessitation relations; Necessitarian essentialism; Realist lawlessness; Are natural laws a natural kind?; The Central Dilemma; Modal properties; Objections and replies; Conclusion: law and metaphor; Notes; Bibliography; Index
Sommario/riassunto	Mumford outlines a major new theory of natural laws. His book begins with the question of whether there are any genuinely law-like phenomena in nature. The discussion addresses questions currently being debated by metaphysicians such as whether the laws of nature are necessary or contingent and whether a property can be identified independently of its causal role.