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Titolo	Azaleas : A Book of Poems // Kim Sowol
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Collana	Weatherhead Books on Asia
Altri autori (Persone)	McCannDavid
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Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- contents -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction: Sowol's Poetry and Place in Korean Literature -- 1. For My Love -- 2. Spring Night -- 3. Two People -- 4. No One Lone Mountain -- 5. One Time, One Time -- 6. Half-Moon -- 7. The Cricket -- 8. If the Seacoast Changed to a Mulberry Grove -- 9. Summer's Moon -- 10. Forsaken -- 11. Alone -- 12. Loneliness of the Journey -- 13. Azaleas -- 14. Lighting the Flower Lamp at Night -- 15. Golden Meadow -- 16. Rooster Cock-a-Doodle-Do -- Afterword / k, Kim
Sommario/riassunto	Available for the first time in English, Azaleas is a captivating collection of poems by a master of the early Korean modernist style. Published in 1925, Azaleas is the only collection Kim Sowol (1902-1934) produced during his brief life, yet he remains one of Korea's most beloved and well-known poets. His work is a delightful and sophisticated blend of the images, tonalities, and rhythms of traditional Korean folk songs with surprisingly modern forms and themes. Sowol is also known for his unique and sometimes unsettling perspective, expressed through loneliness, longing, and a creative use of dream imagery-a reflection of Sowol's engagement with French Symbolist poetry. Azaleas recounts the journey of a young Korean as he travels from the northern P'yongyang area near to the cosmopolitan capital of Seoul. Told through an array of voices, the poems describe the young man's

actions as he leaves home, his experiences as a student and writer in Seoul, and his return north. Although considered a landmark of Korean literature, *Azaleas* speaks to readers from all cultures. An essay by Sowol's mentor, the poet Kim Ok, concludes the collection and provides vital insight into Sowol's work and life. This elegant translation by David R. McCann, an expert on modern Korean poetry, maintains the immediacy and richness of Sowol's work and shares with English-language readers the quiet beauty of a poet who continues to cast a powerful spell on generations of Korean readers.
