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Nota di contenuto	Introduction -- Forewarned, forearmed -- Visions of national destiny -- Defending slavery -- Avoiding war and preserving peace -- Pacific visions -- Texas -- Retirement and secession -- Conclusion : precedents and legacies.
Sommario/riassunto	The first vice president to become president on the death of the incumbent, John Tyler (1790-1862) was derided by critics as "His Accidency." In this biography, the author challenges previous depictions of Tyler as a die-hard advocate of states' rights, limited government, and a strict interpretation of the Constitution.