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Autore	Mitter Rana <1969->
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Sommario/riassunto	China today is never out of the news: from human rights controversies and the continued legacy of Tiananmen Square, to global coverage of the Beijing Olympics, and the Chinese 'economic miracle'. This Very Short Introduction provides an accessible guide to why China looks the way it does today, and how it got there. - ;China today is never out of the news: from human rights controversies and the continued legacy of Tiananmen Square, to global coverage of the Beijing Olympics, and the Chinese 'economic miracle'. It seems a country of contradictions: a peasant society with some of the world's mo