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Nota di contenuto	Book Cover; Title; Copyright; Contents; Acknowledgements; Explanatory note; Figures; Tables; Introduction; 1 Perceptions and expectations of marriage in Japan; 2 The impact of feminist discourses on marriage and fertility; 3 Male gender roles and masculinity; 4 Gender roles: The roles of wife and mother; 5 Changes in courtship practices; 6 Beyond Japan: Crossnational comparisons; Conclusion; Appendices; Notes; Bibliography; Index
Sommario/riassunto	The phenomenon of bankonka - 'postponement of marriage' - is increasingly reported in contemporary Japanese media, clearly illustrating the changing patterns of modern lifestyles and attitudes towards marriage, personal obligation and ambition. This is the first book in recent years to explore the contemporary state of marriage in Japanese society. Setting out the different perceptions and expectations of marriage in today's Japan, the book discusses how economic issues and the family impact on marital behaviour. Contrary to the views of some feminists that young women have no inte