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Sommario/riassunto

Poems vivifying nature have gripped people for centuries. From Biblical
 times to the present day, poetry has continuously drawn us to the
 natural world. In this thought-provoking book, John Felstiner explores
 the rich legacy of poems that take nature as their subject, and he
 demonstrates their force and beauty. In our own time of environmental
 crises, he contends, poetry has a unique capacity to restore our
 attention to our environment in its imperiled state. And, as we take
 heed, we may well become better stewards of the earth. In forty brief
 and lucid chapters, Felstiner presents those voices that have most
 strongly spoken to and for the natural world. Poets-from the Romantics
 through Whitman and Dickinson to Elizabeth Bishop and Gary Snyder-
 have helped us envision such details as ocean winds eroding and
 rebuilding dunes in the same breath, wild deer freezing in our
 presence, and a person carving initials on a still-living stranded whale.
 Sixty color and black-and-white images, many seen for the first time,
 bear out visually the environmental imagination this book discovers-a
 poetic legacy more vital now than ever.