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Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- 1. Touring the Institution -- 2. How to Build a Big House -- 3. Your Life as a Convict -- 4. The Art of Humiliation -- 5. Sex -- 6. You Built It, Now Try to Run It -- 7. A Tale of Two Prisons -- 8. Rajahs and Reformers -- 9. Prisons You Can't Tear Down -- Notes -- Works Cited -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	"The Big House" is America's idea of the prison--a huge, tough, ostentatiously oppressive pile of rock, bristling with rules and punishments, overwhelming in size and the intent to intimidate. Stephen Cox tells the story of the American prison--its politics, its sex, its violence, its inability to control itself--and its idealization in American popular culture. This book investigates both the popular images of prison and the realities behind them--problems of control and discipline, maintenance and reform, power and sexuality. It conveys an awareness of the limits of human and institutional power, and of the symbolic and iconic qualities the "Big House" has attained in America's understanding of itself.