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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical reference and indexes.
Nota di contenuto	DISCOURSE OF SILENCE; Editorial page; Title page; Dedication; Copyright page; Table of contents; PREFACE; Acknowledgements; Chapter One. The Semiotics of Silence; Chapter Two. The Modality of Silence; Chapter Three. The Transitivity of Silence: Legal Discourse; Chapter Four. The Silence and Silencing of Darcy; Chapter Five. The Silence and Silencing of Moses; Chapter Six. The Sounds of Silence; POSTSCRIPT; Notes; APPENDIX I; APPENDIX II; APPENDIX III; Bibliography; Indexes
Sommario/riassunto	The book deals initially with the interpretation of the silent answer to a question. From a semiotic approach to the contrast between silence and speech mainly within a Greimasian framework, the discussion turns to the application of pragmatic tools such as conversational analysis and adjacency pairs to the interpretation of silence. A model is presented which attempts to explain the observer's cognitive competence, and its limits, in being able to interpret the silent answer. A basic distinction is also made between intentional silence (the refusal to answer) and non-intentional silence (the