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Nota di contenuto	Contents; Acknowledgements; "I am the American Dream": Modern Urban Tragedy and the Borders of Fiction; Baltimore before The Wire; I. Baltimore and Its Institutions; II. On the Corner; III. Twenty-first- Century Television; Works Cited; Episode List; Notes on Contributors; Index
Sommario/riassunto	The Wire is about survival, about the strategies adopted by those living and working in the inner cities of America. It presents a world where for many even hope isn't an option, where life operates as day-to-day existence without education, without job security, and without social structures. This is a world that is only grey, an exacting autopsy of a side of American life that has never seen the inside of a Starbucks. Over its five season, sixty-episode run (2002-2008), The Wire presents several overlapping narrative threads, all set in the city of Baltimore. The series consistently deconstr