1. Record Nr. UNINA9910461622003321 Autore Alexander John T Titolo Catherine the Great [[electronic resource]]: life and legend / / John T. Alexander New York,: Oxford University Press, 1989 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-283-12136-0 9786613121363 0-19-987430-1 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (457 p.) Collana Oxford Lives Disciplina 947/.063/0924 В Soggetti Electronic books. Russia Kings and rulers Biography Russia History Catherine II, 1762-1796 Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto pt. 1. Catherine's youth and her accession to the throne -- pt. 2. The crises of mid-life -- pt. 3. An aging empress. Sommario/riassunto One of the most colorful characters in modern history. Catherine II of Russia began her life as a minor German princess, until the childless Empress Elizabeth and Catherine's own scheming mother married her off to the Grand Duke Peter of Russia at age sixteen. By thirty-three, she had overthrown her husband in a bloodless coup and established herself as Empress of the multinational Russian Empire, the largest territorial political unit in modern history. Portrayed both as a political genius who restored to Russia the glory it had known in the days of

Peter the Great and as a despotic foreign a