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Nota di contenuto	1. Introduction / Erik S. Reinert and Francesca Lidia Viano -- 2. Veblen's contexts: Valdres, Norway and Europe; filiations of economics; and economics for an age of crises / Erik S. Reinert -- Part One: Norwegian Origins and Personal Life. 3. Explaining Veblen by his Norwegian background: a sketch / Kare Lunden -- 4. Valdres to the Upper Midwest: the Norwegian background of the Veblen family and their migration to the United States / Terje Mikael Hasle Joranger -- 5. New perspectives on Thorstein Veblen, the Norwegian / Knut Odner -- 6. The physical world of Thorstein Veblen: Washington Island and other intimate spaces / Russell H. Bartley and Sylvia Erickson Bartley -- Part Two: American Education. 7. Ithaca transfer: Veblen and the historical profession / Francesca Lidia Viano -- 8. Schooling for heterodoxy: on the foundations of Thorstein Veblen's institutional economics / Charles Camic -- Part Three: Veblen's Politics. 9. Thorstein Veblen and the politics of predatory power / Sidney Plotkin -- 10. Veblen, war and peace / Stephen Edgell -- 11. Veblen's 'higher learning': the scientist as Sisyphus in the iron cage of a University / Eyup Ozveren -- Part Four: Veblen's Economics. 12. Thorstein Veblen: the father of evolutionary and institutional economics / Geoffrey M. Hodgson -- 13. Veblen's words weighed / Paul Burkander -- 14. The great crash of 2007 viewed through the perspective of Veblen's Theory of Business Enterprise, Keynes's monetary theory of production and Minsky's financial instability

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Sommario/riassunto

After his death Thorstein Veblen was hailed as Americas Darwin and Marx and is normally portrayed as the perennial iconoclast. He severely criticised traditional economics and attempted to create an alternative approach based on a much more complex view of human beings. He is one of the most celebrated economists of our age and has been the inspiration for many books; the predatory version of capitalism we now again experience, the phenomenon of studying cultures of consumption and the darker sides of gilded ages can be traced back to Veblen. A conference in Veblens ancestral Norway marked the 150th anniversary of his birth. The aim of the conference was to consolidate Veblen scholarship and evaluate his relevance for the problems of today. This collection offers the results of that endeavour; it is a milestone of Vebleniana which assesses all the most salient aspects of his life and influence. Many of its contributors also push into uncharted territory, examining the man and his work from new and necessary perspectives hitherto ignored by scholarship.