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Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- List of Illustrations -- Preamble -- 1. Defining Islands and Isolating Definitions -- 2. Horizontal and Vertical -- 3. Animate Swimmers and Inanimate Floaters -- 4. Material Substance and State of Matter -- 5. Cities in Straits -- 6. Naming and Sovereignty -- 7. Utopias and Laboratory Hypotheses -- 8. Politics, Philosophy, Epic Drama -- 9. The Distracted Globe -- 10. Island Words -- 11. Dire Straits -- 12. Liberty -- 13. Hamlet Is Germany -- 14. The Region of Illusion -- 15. Building for a Future -- Postamble -- Acknowledgments -- Notes -- Name Index -- Place Index
Sommario/riassunto	Islandology is a fast-paced, fact-filled comparative essay in critical topography and cultural geography that cuts across different cultures and argues for a world of islands. The book explores the logical consequences of geographic place for the development of philosophy and the study of limits (Greece) and for the establishment of North Sea democracy (England and Iceland), explains the location of military hot-spots and great cities (Hormuz and Manhattan), and sheds new light on dozens of world-historical productions whose motivating islandic aspect has not heretofore been recognized (Shakespeare's Hamlet and Wagner's Ring of the Nibelung). Written by Shell in view of the melting of the world's great ice islands, Islandology shows not only new ways

that we think about islands but also why and how we think by means of them.
