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Titolo	Ernst Bloch : The Pugnacious Philosopher of Hope // by Jack Zipes
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Nota di contenuto	1. Reintroducing Bloch: In Pursuit of Utopia -- 2. The Struggle against the Obscenity of Hope -- 3. Ernst Bloch and the Dialectics of Obscenity and Inequality -- 4. The Pugnacity and Speculation of Hope, or Why We Want a Better World -- 5. The Messianic Power of Fantasy in the Bible -- 6. Ernst Bloch's Enlightened View of the Fairy Tale and Utopian Longing -- 7. The Utopian Function of Fairy Tales and Fantasy: Ernst Bloch the Marxist and J. R. R. Tolkien the Catholic -- 8. Kitsch, Colportage, and the Liberating Potential of Vor-Schein in Fairy Tales -- 9. Epilogue: Why Hope?
Sommario/riassunto	This book provides a comprehensive introduction to and overview of the life and philosophy of Ernst Bloch. Bloch has had a strange fate in the English-speaking world. He wrote his famous three-volume opus, The Principle of Hope, while living in exile in the United States from 1938 to 1940. It was first published, however, in East Germany in the 1950s after he had returned to Europe and became a professor of philosophy at the University of Leipzig. Gradually, his other numerous works became better known and widespread in Europe and scholars in the US and UK started to take note of his works. Yet, he has still remained a somewhat neglected figure in the humanities. While this book does not set out to entirely rectify this neglect, it does offer

readers an introduction to Bloch's works and the opportunity to understand more about the importance of utopian thought. Through an exploration of some of Bloch's more controversial communist leanings and relationship to the Soviet Union, a study of Bloch's utopian quest, and even a comparison with J. R. R. Tolkien, this comprehensive study demonstrates just how interesting a figure Ernst Bloch really was, and how his philosophy of hope has laid the basis for secular humanism.
