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Autore	Thomas Sarah
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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction -- Lorre and the European stage (1922-1931) -- M, Fritz Lang and Hans Beckert -- The Hollywood leading roles (1935-1941) -- The supporting actor (1941-1946) -- Der Verlorene (The lost one) -- The final screen roles (1954-1964) -- Alternative 'Hollywood' media contexts -- Conclusion.
Sommario/riassunto	Peter Lorre described himself as merely a 'face maker'. His own negative attitude also characterizes traditional perspectives which position Lorre as a tragic figure within film history: the promising European artist reduced to a Hollywood gimmick, unable to escape the murderous image of his role in Fritz Lang's M. This book shows that the life of Peter Lorre cannot be reduced to a series of simplistic oppositions. It reveals that, despite the limitations of his macabre star image, Lorre's screen performances were highly ambitious, and the terms of his employment were rarely restrictive