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Nota di contenuto	1. Introduction: Individuality in South India -- pt. 1. Public Faces. 2. The Nature of Civic Individuality. 3. Institutions and Big-men of a Madras City Community: George Town Today. 4. Making the Community: George Town in Social History. 5. A Portrait of Change. 6. The Decline of Community and the Roles of Big-men -- pt. 2. Private Voices. 7. Themes of Individuality in Private and Public Lives: Personal Narratives. 8. Locating Individuality within the Collective Context -- 9. Conclusions.
Sommario/riassunto	Individuality is often viewed as an exclusively Western value. In non-Western societies, collective identities seem to eclipse those of individuals. These generalities, however, have overlooked the importance of personal uniqueness, volition, and achievement in these cultures. This book weaves together personal life stories, historical description, and theoretical analysis to define individuality in South Asia and to distinguish it from its Western counterpart.