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Nota di contenuto	Introduction: depicting democracy -- Parliament worship -- Disappointing democracy -- The people's war and after -- Imagining the post-war consensus -- The established order undermined -- The televised crisis -- Yes, conspirator -- Still no job for a lady -- A thick ending -- Epilogue: what would Plato say?.
Sommario/riassunto	A State of Play explores how the British have imagined their politics, from the parliament worship of Anthony Trollope to the cynicism of The Thick of It . In an account that mixes historical with political analysis, Steven Fielding argues that fictional depictions of politics have played an important but insidious part in shaping how the British think about their democracy and have helped ventilate their many frustrations with Westminster. He shows that dramas and fictions have also performed a significant role in the battle of ideas, in a way undreamt of by those who draft party manifestos.