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Sommario/riassunto	A pioneering history of personal hygiene and body-care, from the earliest times to the present. From pre-historic grooming rituals to New Age medicine, Virginia Smith looks at how different cultures have interpreted and striven for personal cleanliness and shows how, throughout history, this striving for purity has brought great social benefits as well as great tragedies. - ;Why do we still have nits? What exactly are 'purity rules'? And why have baths scarcely changed in 200 years?. The long history of personal hygiene and purity is a fascinating subject that reveals how closely we are linked