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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 177-251) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Contents; 1 No Duty to Retreat in Law and the American Mind; 2 The Gunfighter: The Reality Behind the Myth; 3 California Conflict and the American Dream; 4 The Persistence of No Duty to Retreat: Crime, Law, and Society in America from the 1850's to the Present; 5 Conclusion: No Duty to Retreat in Retrospect and Prospect; Notes; Index;
Sommario/riassunto	A discussion of crime, law and society in the USA, which demonstrates that surges in crime since the 1950's have coincided with the emergence of the post-industrial society. It examines the growing popularity of the concept that persons under physical attack have the right to defend themselves.