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Nota di contenuto	Book Cover; Title; Contents; List of illustrations; Preface; Note to the paperback edition; The Emporia; Lepcis Magna: From Free State to Colonia; Life in Roman Tripolitania; The Broad Stripe; Into the Emperor's Service; A Caesar Born to the Purple; The Great Marshal; Julia Domna; The Conspirators; The Year 193; The War against Niger; The War against Albinus; Parthia and Egypt; Return to Africa; The Years in Italy; Expeditio Felicissima Britannica; Aftermath and Assessment; Abbreviations used in Appendices and Notes; Ancient Sources and Modern Scholarship The Septimii and Fulvii of Lepcis Magna, the Julii of Emesa, and their connectionsReferences and Notes; Bibliographies; Addenda (1999); Index
Sommario/riassunto	In this, the only biography of Septimius Severus in English, Anthony R. Birley explores how 'Roman' or otherwise this man was and examines his remarkable background and career. Severus was descended from Phoenician settlers in Tripolitania, and his reign, AD 193-211,

represents a key point in Roman history. Birley explores what was African and what was Roman in Septimius' background, given that he came from an African city. He asks whether Septimius was a 'typical cosmopolitan bureaucrat', a 'new Hannibal on the throne of Caesar' or 'principle author of the decline of the Roman Empire'?
