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Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (ix, 316 p. ) : ill. (some col.)
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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	The Elements of Nature; Early Ideas of the Nature of Matter; The Quest for Gold and Eternal Life; The Beginning of Chemistry; Modern Chemistry is Born; Nineteenth Century Chemistry; Atoms Have Structure; Radioactivity and the Nuclear Atom; Some Early 20th Century Physics; What is a Nucleus Made of?; Electrons in Atoms; The New Mechanics; Electrons and Chemistry; Electron Spin and the Exclusion Principle; Isotopes; The Processes of Radioactivity and More Particles; Making Atoms, Explosions and Power; Observing Matter on a Small Scale; Living Matter; Life at the Atomic Level; Materials from Ancient Tmes; Some Modern Materials; The Fantasy World of Particles; How Matter Began; Making Heavier Elements.
Sommario/riassunto	Starting with the ideas of ancient civilizations that air, earth, fire and water were the basic ingredients of all matter, this title traces the development of the science of chemistry beginning within the ranks of the alchemists.