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Autore	Mayer Janet Grossbach
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Sommario/riassunto	Rundown, vermin-infested buildings. rigid, slow-to-react bureaucratic systems. Children from broken homes and declining communities. How can a teacher succeed? How does a student not only survive but also come to thrive? It can happen, and 'As Bad as They Say?' tells the heroic stories of Janet Mayer's students during her 33-year tenure as a Bronx high school teacher.