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Nota di contenuto	Contents; Preface; Acknowledgments; List of Contributors; 1 The Origin and Radiation of Therapsids; 2 Therapsid Biodiversity Patterns and Paleoenvironments of the Karoo Basin, South Africa; 3 The Microstructure of Bones and Teeth of Nonmammalian Therapsids; 4 The Paleobiology and Bone Microstructure of Pelycosaurian-Grade Synapsids; 5 Dicynodont Growth Dynamics and Lifestyle Adaptations; 6 Biological Inferences of the Cranial Microstructure of the Dicynodonts Oudenodon and Lystrosaurus; 7 Bone and Dental Histology of Late Triassic Dicynodonts from North America 8 Bone Histology of Some Therocephalians and Gorgonopsians, and Evidence of Bone Degradation by Fungi9 The Radiation and Osteohistology of Nonmammaliaform Cynodonts; 10 The Radiation, Bone Histology, and Biology of Early Mammals; 11 The Evolution of Mammalian Endothermy; References; Index
Sommario/riassunto	About 320 million years ago a group of reptiles known as the synapsids emerged and forever changed Earth's ecological landscapes. This book discusses the origin and radiation of the synapsids from their sail-backed pelycosaur ancestor to their diverse descendants, the therapsids or mammal-like reptiles, that eventually gave rise to

mammals. It further showcases the remarkable evolutionary history of the synapsids in the Karoo Basin of South Africa and the environments that existed at the time. By highlighting studies of synapsid bone microstructure, it offers a unique perspective of how suc