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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 279-327) and index.
Nota di contenuto	1. Introduction: Building a City of Light; 2. Guiding Light and Luminous Fountains (1841-1890); 3. Fibers of Glass; 4. The Quest for Remote Viewing: Television and the Legacy of Sword Swallowers (1895-1940); 5. A Critical Insight: The Birth of the Clad Optical Fiber (1950-1955); 6. 99 Percent Perspiration: The Birth of an Industry (1954-1960); 7. A Vision of the Future: Communicating with Light (1880-1960); 8. The Laser Stimulates the Emission of New Ideas (1960-1969); 9. "The Only Thing Left Is Optical Fibers" (1960-1969); 10. Trying to Sell a Dream (1965-1970); 11. Breakthrough: The Clearest Glass in the World (1966-1972); 12. Recipes for Grains of Salt: The Semiconductor Laser (1962-1977); 13. A Demonstration for the Queen (1970-1975); 14. Three Generations in Five Years (1975-1983); 15. Submarine Cables: Covering the Ocean Floor with Glass (1970-1995); 16. The Last Mile: An Elusive Vision; 17. Reflections on the City of Light; Appendix A. Dramatis Personae: Cast of Characters; Appendix B. A Fiber-Optic Chronology
Sommario/riassunto	This text presents the history of the development of fibre optic technology, explaining the scientific challenges that needed to be overcome, the range of applications and future potential for this fundamental communications technology.

