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Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction -- Family and judiciary in The Spanish tragedy -- Competition and grace in Hamlet -- Surveillance and consumption in The revenger's tragedy -- Education and autocracy in The malcontent -- Meritocratic reform in The Duchess of Malfi -- Conclusion.
Sommario/riassunto	In this book, McMahon considers Early Modern revenge plays from a political science perspective, paying particular attention to the construction of family and state institutions. Plays set for close study are The Spanish Tragedy, Hamlet, The Revenger's Tragedy, The Malcontent and The Duchess of Malfi. The plays are read as unique events occupying positions in historical process concerning the privatisation of the family (by means of symbolism and concrete household strategies such as budgeting and surveillance) and the subsequent appropriation of the family and its methods