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Autore	Pack Robert <1929->
Titolo	Laughter before sleep [[electronic resource] /] / Robert Pack
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Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (155 p.)
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Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- I. Seasons -- II. Cherishing -- III. Lamenting -- IV. Laughter -- V. Epilogue
Sommario/riassunto	One of America's most eminent nature poets, Robert Pack has won the acclaim of writers, critics, and readers from Stephen Jay Gould to Mark Strand. In his latest collection, <i>Laughter Before Sleep</i> , Pack carries on his themes of family and friends, responsibility to the natural world of evolved diversity, the transience of life, the fragility of happiness, and the consolations offered by art and music. <i>Laughter Before Sleep</i> weighs the nature of endings from the perspective of old age and embraces the humor and play of memory that keep mortality at bay. As we are carried along with Pack's lyrical, sensitive, and intelligent verse, he takes us on a moving but often comic journey toward the end of life. In the opening section, Pack composes poems that meditate upon a sense of his own diminishing and the meaning of absences. The middle sections form episodes of a memoir in verse, moving from family to history and back again, reflecting on the power of anecdote to shape a life in retrospect. With the final section, Pack recalls his unfulfilled plan to raise penguins in Montana, offers a panegyric on Darwin's nose, and makes the mistake of trying to impress a police officer with a book of poems. Filled with charm and wit but also with philosophical melancholy, <i>Laughter Before Sleep</i> is a superb addition to the poet's

oeuvre.
