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Nota di contenuto	When Structure Met Agency -- Institutional Context: "And It Was Kind of Hard to Get Information" -- Gender: "Men Work, Women Have Children" -- Social Context: "It's Just What My Family Does" -- Role of Policy: "We're Supposed to be Learning" -- Role of Theory: Choosing to Labour? -- App. A Profile of Participants -- App. B Data and Methodology.
Sommario/riassunto	Young people about to leave high school argue that they are determining their own destinies. Scholarly debates also suggest that the influence of structural factors such as social class on an individual's life course is decreasing. Wolfgang Lehmann challenges this view and offers a detailed comparative analysis of the inter-relationships between social class, institutional structures, and individual educational

and career choices. Through a qualitative study of academic-track high school students and participants in youth apprenticeships in Germany and Canada, Lehmann shows how the range of available school-work transition options are defined by both gender and social class. Highlighting the importance of the institutional context in understanding school-work transitions, particularly in relation to Germany's celebrated apprenticeship system, which rests on highly streamed secondary schooling and a stratified labour market, Lehmann argues that social inequalities are maintained in part by the choices made by young people, rather than simply by structural forces. Choosing to Labour? concludes with an exploration of how public policy can meet the dual challenge of providing young people with meaningful and equitable educational experiences, while simultaneously fulfilling the need for a skilled workforce.
