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Nota di contenuto	Book Cover; Title; Copyright; Contents; Preface; 1 Introduction; 2 The strong and the weak in Japanese religious, philosophical and political writings; 3 Ugly ladies in The Tale of Genji; 4 Women, humble men and insulted people in The Tale of the Heike; 5 Sacrifice and revenge, love and war, and a world without violence in The Eight Dog Chronicles; 6 Dancing girl, geisha, mistress and wife in Kawabata Yasunari's stories: The Dancing Girl of Izu, Snow Country, Thousand Cranes and The Sound of the Mountain; 7 Conclusion; Notes; Bibliography; Index
Sommario/riassunto	This book uses texts from classical to modern Japanese literature to examine concepts of 'respect for the strong', as a notion of an evolutionary society, and 'sympathy for the weak', as a notion of a non-violent and changeless egalitarian society. The term strong refers not just to those with strength and power. It also includes other ideal attributes such as beauty, youth and goodness. Similarly, the term weak implies not only the weak and infirm, but also the disadvantaged, the indecent, the unsophisticated and those generally shunned by

society. The former are associated not only with t

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