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Collana	Film culture in transition
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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (pages 447-452), filmography (pages 439-443) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction -- Three major predecessors -- The fallow years: an assortment of ghosts bringing back the past -- Ghosts in the city -- Ghosts in the machine -- Schoolgirl angst -- Childhood abuse -- Generic developments 1: messages from the dead -- Spain and history 1: politics and war -- Hollywood reinfections -- Asian variations -- Generic developments 2: ghosts in the woman's film -- Ghosts and institutions 1: South Korea -- Ghosts and institutions 2: the west -- National variations -- Anatomy of the ghost melodrama -- Spain and history 2: the Franco legacy and the Catholic church -- The return of the British ghost film -- Recent US developments and conclusion.
Sommario/riassunto	The popular and critical successes of films like The Sixth Sense and the Ring film and its sequels in the late 1990s led to an impressive international explosion of scary films dealing with ghosts. This book takes a close look at a number of those films from different countries, including the United States, Japan, South Korea, Spain, and Great Britain. Making a crucial distinction between these atmospheric films and conventional horror, Michael Walker argues that they are most productively seen as ghost melodramas, which opens them up to a powerful range of analytic tools from the study of melodrama, including, crucially, psychoanalysis.