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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Prologue: two Hawthornes -- Salem I: telling it slant -- Concord I: the wild and the good -- Salem/Concord: undoing it all -- Salem II: Hawthorne and the problem of New England -- Concord II: sisters act -- England I: in the belly of the beast -- England II: indian summer -- Italy I: a fine bewilderment -- Italy II: on the crust -- Epilogue: last words.
Sommario/riassunto	This literary/biographical study of Nathaniel Hawthorne's full career presents a self-divided man and writer strongly attracted to reality for its own sake and remarkably adept at rendering it yet fearful of the nothingness he intuited at its heart. Making use of Hawthorne's notebooks and letters as well as nearly all of his important fiction, this biography distinguishes between 'two Hawthornes', then maps them onto the physical and cultural locales that were formative for Hawthorne's character and work: Salem, Massachusetts; Concord, Massachusetts; England; and Italy.