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Sommario/riassunto	Looming large in these personal stories is the legacy of China's three decades of social and political turbulence following the Communist revolution in 1949 and America's dizzying abundance of material goods and personal freedom. This title appealed in China to those who had studied abroad, those who dreamed of doing so, and those who wanted a glimpse of the real America. This English-language edition allows American readers to see

their country through a Chinese lens. Since China reopened to the West in the late 1970s, several hundred thousand Chinese students and scholars have travelled abroad for advanced education, primarily to the United States. Based on interviews conducted while the author studied journalism and taught Chinese literature at the University of Michigan from 1989 to 1995, this volume tells the stories of students from a variety of backgrounds. After describing the history of Chinese students in America - from Yung Wing, who graduated from Yale in 1854, to the post-Cultural Revolution generation - Qian presents the experience of Chinese students today through anecdotes ranging from students' obsession with obtaining Green Cards and their struggles to support themselves, to their marital crises.
