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Autore	Pavlov Andrei
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## Sommario/riassunto

This is the first major re-assessment of Ivan the Terrible to be published in the West in the post-Soviet period. It breaks away from older stereotypes of the tsar - whether as 'crazed tyrant' and 'evil genius', on the one hand, or as a 'great and wise statesman', on the other - to provide a more balanced picture. It examines the ways in which Ivan's policies contributed to the creation of Russia's distinctive system of unlimited monarchical rule. Ivan is best remembered for his reign of terror, the book pays due attention to the horrors of his executions, tortures and repressions, es

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