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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front Matter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Chronology -- Introduction -- An Oasis of Liberty -- Searching for the New World -- The First Campaign -- The Day of Discussion -- The Swamp -- An Unofficial funeral -- Miniature, Everyday Coups -- Another Country ... Another Man -- The Final Coup -- The Rebel -- Raskol -- A Higher Value -- Russia Returns to Its Roots -- Confrontation Still Lives in Our Souls -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	A Democracy of Despots is a history of Soviet and Russian experiments with democratic institutions from 1988 to 1995. Based on eye-witness accounts and in-depth interviews with most of the political leaders in this drama, it tells the story of the men and women who began an experiment in euphoria only to find themselves at war with one another five years later. Arguing that Gorbachev and Yeltsin used the democratic institutions they created to crush political opponents and increase their own personal power, Murray concludes that the rise of Vladimir Zhirinovskiy and the war in Chechnya are not aberrations on Russia's road to democracy but the logical extension and consequence of Gorbachev's and Yeltsin's despotism.

