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Note generali	Comprises the Gifford lectures delivered in Apr. 2008 at the University of Glasgow.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Atheism in historical perspective -- The credibility of religious belief : claims and counter-claims -- Darwinism : how much does it explain? -- Morality, art, and religion : invention or discovery? -- Is religion bad for our health? : saints, martyrs, and terrorists -- Sacred texts : how should we read them?
Sommario/riassunto	Heralded as the exponents of a 'new atheism', critics of religion are highly visible in today's media, and include the household names of Richard Dawkins, Daniel Dennett and Sam Harris. David Fergusson explains their work in its historical perspective, drawing comparisons with earlier forms of atheism. Responding to the critics through conversations on the credibility of religious belief, Darwinism, morality, fundamentalism, and our approach to reading sacred texts, he establishes a compelling case for the practical and theoretical validity of faith in the contemporary world. An invitation to