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Nota di contenuto	Introduction : Characteristics of the Viking Age in Scandinavia -- The Powerful Danish Kings -- Kings and Chieftains in the Shadow of the Danish Kings -- Networks of Power : Friendship and Kinship -- Peace and Conflict Resolution -- Honor and Posthumous Reputation -- Class and Gender in Viking Society -- Religion and Power -- Livelihoods : Farming, Pillaging, and Trade -- Conclusion : The Viking Age Dynamic -- Rulers in Scandinavia during the Viking Age.
Sommario/riassunto	Jon Viðar Sigurðsson returns to the Viking homeland, Scandinavia, highlighting such key aspects of Viking life as power and politics, social and kinship networks, gifts and feasting, religious beliefs, women's roles, social classes, and the Viking economy, which included farming, iron mining and metalworking, and trade. Drawing of the latest archeological research and on literary sources, namely the sagas, Sigurðsson depicts a complex and surprisingly peaceful society that belies the popular image of Norsemen as bloodthirsty barbarians.