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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	A script of perfection, failure, blame -- Ascent into darkness : escalating negativity, 1931-1941 -- A symbiosis of errors : the personal, professional, and political, 1931-1938 -- The art of complaint, 1931-1938 -- Power to the people and to the state : great performances by V.P. Bulygina and E.T. Chernykh -- "My friend, I've hit rock bottom" : politics and friendship -- A tragedy : the terror -- Degeneration of the symbiosis of errors, 1938-1941 -- "Stop this petty tyranny" : letters and the administration of schools in Falenki, 1940-1941 -- Proprietary professionalism : mine by right, 1938-1941.
Sommario/riassunto	Grand Theater examines bureaucracy not as a readily identifiable structure, which it certainly was, but rather as a process of day-to-day operation. Thus it is concerned with how agencies of both the Communist Party and the state apparatus not only implemented directives from above but also responded to perceived successes and failures, chose to produce, share, and conceal information, and reacted when common citizens injected themselves into governance by making demands and complaints.