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Autore	Walford Geoffrey
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Sommario/riassunto	Geoffrey Walford, a renowned and experienced researcher, reflects upon the trials and tribulations and the problems and promises of conducting research - and also on the links between the idiosyncrasies and circumstances of researchers and what is possible in research. Research is revealed as a much more complicated process than is usually recognized, sometimes messy and disorganized, sometimes constrained in unexpected ways, but always challenging to both researcher and reader.