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Nota di contenuto	Introduction -- The prerevolutionary economy : progress or stagnation? -- Fidel Castro and the Cuban populist tradition -- U.S. policy and the Cuban Revolution -- The driving force of the Cuban Revolution : from above or from below? -- The role of the Soviet Union and the Cuban Communists -- Epilogue.
Sommario/riassunto	Analyzing the crucial period of the Cuban Revolution from 1959 to 1961, this book challenges scholarly views of the revolution's sources, shape, and historical trajectory. It states that revolutionary leaders, while acting under serious constraints, were nevertheless autonomous agents pursuing their own independent ideological visions.