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Sommario/riassunto	This is a major study of the transformation of early modern English rural society. It begins by assessing the three major debates about the character of English society: the 'Brenner Debate'; the debate over English Individualism; and the long running debate over the disappearance of the small landowner. It then turns to the history of Earls Colne in Essex, which has never before been the subject of a full-length study despite it being one of the most discussed villages in England. French and Hoyle's rounded account describes the arrival of a new landlord family, the Harlakendens, the tensions