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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Supply -- Demand -- Commodity reading -- Business besides aesthetics -- Conclusion.
Sommario/riassunto	This study shows how aesthetics and economics have been combined in a great work of literature. Widely acknowledged as one of the great English novels, <i>Middlemarch</i> was published at a time which saw the emergence of a commodity-based culture. Frost examines the history of <i>Middlemarch</i> 's composition and publication within the context of Victorian demand, then goes on to consider the interpretation, reception and consumption of the book. Reader experience and rival publications are explored alongside a 'commodity reading' of the novel. The study will be of value to scholars of book history, economics and material culture.