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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Contents; Preface; 1 Introduction: why no one seems to know, even my mother, what I do at work; SECTION ONE: Undergraduate Life; 2 Lowering the Bar: why we have such low intellectual expectations for students even though they could easily do more; 3 The Prestige Business: what services the university provides students and why we charge so much for tuition; 4 Shortening the Yellow Brick Road: why we have made college easier, yet no one seems to mind or care; 5 The Sports Machine: how universities entertain their students and alumni and why and how we've crossed the line of good judgment SECTION TWO: Research and Graduate Education; 6 Heart and Soul: why graduate students are often more important than professors; 7 Grants or Goodbye: why we spend so much time writing our grant proposals; 8 Why Research?: what professors do when they don't teach and why they do it; SECTION THREE: Campus Politics; 9 Matchmaking: how we hire and why we move to other universities; 10 The End of the Golden Age: why the era of exponential growth has ended and why it's a good thing that it's over 11 Shaking the Tree: why universities are increasingly turning to alumni, foundations and corporations, and what they will and will not

do in exchange for money¹² You've Got to Believe: why we blindly follow the latest trends in academic fashion even though it makes us look ridiculous; 13 The Fifty Percent Solution: why there are so few female professors, and why there aren't likely to be more in the foreseeable future; 14 Making Adjustments: how to adapt to the life of a professor without getting too crazy; 15 Getting Tenure: what it takes to get tenure, why standards have risen, and why they will continue to rise; 16 Rolling the Dice: why the American university is still valuable even though it looks to be in such a mess

Sommario/riassunto

As a series of essays, this book is laced with personal anecdotes about what it means to be a professor, a science professor in particular, and how the American university has changed now that federal funding is being curbed.
