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Collana	Breakthroughs in mimetic theory
Disciplina	192.2003984664
Soggetti	Desire (Philosophy) Resentment
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Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (pages 181-192) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Foreword / by Rene Girard -- Foreword / by Paul Dumouchel -- Introduction -- 1. The revolt of the slaves at the masters' banquet -- 2. Bourgeois philanthropy -- 3. The surprise box of resentment -- 4. The last of the scapegoats -- 5. The mimetic nature of our resentment -- 6. Toward a sociology of resentment -- 7. From victim-playing to the ethics of resentment -- Conclusion.
Sommario/riassunto	This book is a response to Friedrich Nietzsche's provocative question: How much and how does resentment condition our daily life? During the twentieth century we witnessed veritable eruptions of this insidious emotion, and we are still witnesses of its proliferation at various levels of society. This book aims to explore, according to Rene Girard's mimetic theory, the anthropological and social assumptions that make up resentment and to investigate its genesis. The analysis of resentment shows that this emotion evolves from mimetic desire: it is an affective experience that people have when a rival denies them opportunities or valuable resources (including status) that they consider to be socially accessible. It is a specific figure of mimetic desire that is typical of contemporary society, where the equality that is proclaimed at the level of values contrasts with striking inequalities of power and access to material resources. This dichotomy generates

increasing tension between highly competitive and egalitarian mimetic desires and growing social inequalities. The resentment is ambiguous, and its ambiguity is that of mimetic desire itself, which we cannot dismiss from our lives. In that it provides occasions of conflict and baseness, resentment can fuel violence, discord, and injustice, but it also can open opportunities for growth and justice, and for inventing institutions that are better adapted to the transformations of our contemporary society.
