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Collana	Very short introductions
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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 160-168) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Contents; Preface; List of illustrations; 1 Law's roots; 2 Law's branches; 3 Law and morality; 4 Courts; 5 Lawyers; 6 The future of the law; References; Cases discussed; Legal sources: a very short explanation; Further reading; Index;
Sommario/riassunto	Law touches every aspect of our daily lives, and yet the main concepts, terms, and processes of the legal system remain obscure to many. This Very Short Introduction provides a clear, jargon-free account of modern legal systems, explaining how the law works both in the Western tradition and around the world. - ;Law underlies our society - it protects our rights, imposes duties on each of us, and establishes a framework for the conduct of almost every social, political, and economic activity. The punishment of crime, compensation of the injured, and the enforcement of contracts are merely some