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Autore	Zamperini Paola
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Collana	Women and gender in China studies, , 1877-5772 ; ; v. 3
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Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Paradise lost : the fantastic childhood of a courtesan to be -- Lost and found : the socialization of the prostituted body -- Family matters : patterns of solidarity and discord in the brothel -- Nobody's son : prostitution and the disintegration of the family romance -- Taking flight poverty, sickness, and death -- Epilogue : back to the future : nostalgia and prostitution.
Sommario/riassunto	This important contribution to the study of early modern Chinese fiction and representation of gender relations focuses on literary representations of the prostitute produced in the Ming and Qing periods. Following her heavily symbolic body, the present work maps this fictional heroine's journey from innocence to sex-work and beyond. This crucial angle allows the author to paint a picture of gender identity, sexuality, and desire that is at once unitary and multi-layered, and that comes to illuminate some of the major themes in the construction of Chinese modernity.