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Nota di contenuto	; 1. On analytic philosophy -- ; 2. On meaning -- ; 3. On objectivity -- ; 4. On belief -- ; 5. On synchronic explanation -- ; 6. On diachronic explanation -- ; 7. On distortions -- ; 8. Conclusion.
Sommario/riassunto	Human cultures generate meanings, and the history of ideas, broadly conceived, is the study of these meanings. An adequate theory of culture must therefore rest on a suitable philosophical enquiry into the nature of the history of ideas. Mark Bevir's book explores the forms of reasoning appropriate to the history of ideas, enhancing our understanding by grappling with central questions such as: What is a meaning? What constitutes objective knowledge of the past? What are beliefs and traditions? How can we explain why people held the beliefs they did? The book ranges widely over issues and theorists associated with post-analytic philosophy, post-modernism, hermeneutics, literary theory, political thought, and social theory.