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Nota di contenuto	pt. 1. Preliminaries -- pt. 2. The time of maximum ice -- pt. 3. The melting of the ice -- pt. 4. The Pleistocene / Holocene transition -- pt. 5. Our present epoch, the holocene.
Sommario/riassunto	The fascinating story of how a harsh terrain that resembled modern Antarctica has been transformed gradually into the forests, grasslands, and wetlands we know today. "One of the best scientific books published in the last ten years."-Ottawa Journal "A valuable new synthesis of facts and ideas about climate, geography, and life during the past 20,000 years. More important, the book conveys an intimate appreciation of the rich variety of nature through time."-S. David Webb, Science