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Nota di contenuto	1. Shocking the system : social movement pressure as the catalyst of political and legal change -- 2. To criminalise or not to criminalise? : conflicting legal responses to social movement pressure -- 3. Why law fails : the administration of land law in the context of power relations -- 4. The limits of progressive state action -- 5. Pushing and redefining legal boundaries through social movement pressure.
Sommario/riassunto	Social Movements, Law and the Politics of Land Reform investigates how rural social movements are struggling for land reform against the background of ambitious but unfulfilled constitutional promises evident in much of the developing world. Taking Brazil as an example, it unpicks the complex reasons behind the remarkably consistent failures of its constitution and law enforcement mechanisms to deliver social justice. Using detailed empirical evidence and focusing upon the relationship between rural social struggles and the state, the book develops a threefold argument: first, the inescapable presence of power relations in all aspects of the production and reproduction of law; secondly their dominant impact on socio-legal outcomes; and finally

the essential and positive role played by social movements in redressing those power imbalances and realising law's progressive potentialities.
