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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Preliminary material -- Introduction -- Question-Forming Kakari Musubi -- Assertion-Forming Kakari Musubi -- Different Developments of Kakari Musubi in Japanese and Okinawan -- KM in Theoretical Perspective -- Conclusion and Prospects -- References -- Index.
Sommario/riassunto	Rumiko Shinzato and Leon A. Serafim bring a new dimension to kakari musubi (a type of focus construction, henceforth KM) research, incorporating Japanese and Western linguistic theories, and synthesizing Okinawan and Japanese scholarship. Specifically, they analyze still-extant Okinawan KM in comparative perspective with its now extinct Japanese counterpart, while also offering reconstructed Proto-Japonic forms. Major hypotheses on the origins and demise of KM with insight from Okinawan are also evaluated. In addition, viewing KM as consisting of kakari particle + nominalized musubi predicate, they compare KM with its structural analogs, such as (1) Modern Japanese no-da , (2) its corollary in Japanese Western Periphery dialects, and (3) English it-clefts. Finally, the authors apply iconicity-based analyses and grammaticalization theory, interpreting correspondences between deictic-origin particles, which are shared, their epistemically unique musubi forms, and their respective functions.