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Sommario/riassunto	The Open Access publication of this book has been made possible by the Swiss National Science Foundation. What is a border, and why does it exist? Reappraising a key idea from Arnold van Gennep's Les rites de passage , this book argues that a border is a threshold, a limen , made to be crossed. African Thresholds studies places of passage spanning from the riverine networks of Senegambia to border-making in colonial Gold Coast and Cote d'Ivoire; from the desert roads of central southern Africa to river heartlands in colonial Togo; from flows of cowrie shells across the Volta River to insurgent borderities in the Lake Chad. In a time when state borders are increasingly shut, this book aims to show us that a border is made by those who cross it as much as by those who stand by it. Contributors are: Ettore Morelli, Fernando Mouta, Pierluigi Valsecchi, Maria Jose Pont Chafer, Giulia Casentini, and Aime Raoul Sumo Tayo.