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Nota di contenuto	Chapter 1. Introduction -- Chapter 2. History and Definition of Death Feigning -- Chapter 3. Overview of Each Taxon -- Chapter 4. Factors Affecting Death Feigning -- Chapter 5. Death Feigning Syndrome -- Chapter 6. Death-Feigning Behavior in Humans and Its Links to Disease -- Chapter 7. Future Research on Feigning Death: Prospects and Challenges.
Sommario/riassunto	This book offers the first comprehensive academic treatment of death-feigning behavior, a widespread yet understudied anti-predator strategy observed across the animal kingdom. Drawing on over two decades of original research, the author presents a multidisciplinary

analysis that integrates behavioral ecology, physiology, and molecular biology, while also incorporating insights from engineering, informatics, and medical science. Death feigning, or thanatosis, has long fascinated naturalists, but only recently has it become the subject of systematic scientific inquiry. This volume reviews its evolutionary significance, taxonomic scope, physiological mechanisms, and genetic underpinnings, with a particular focus on experimental studies in beetles. The book also explores how environmental and internal factors such as temperature, circadian rhythms, and dopamine signaling modulate the expression and duration of immobility. Importantly, the book extends its scope to human-related implications, examining potential parallels between death-feigning behavior and human conditions such as PTSD, Parkinson’s disease, and trauma-induced freezing. These connections open new avenues for interdisciplinary research in genomic behavioral ecology, a field at the intersection of biology, neuroscience, and medicine. With detailed case studies, historical context, and forward-looking perspectives, this book is a distinctive and valuable resource for researchers and students in animal behavior, neurobiology, evolutionary biology, and related disciplines.