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Abbreviations -- Introduction -- Chapter 1. Caveat Emptor -- Chapter 2. Between Old World and New -- Chapter 3. Mexico -- Chapter 4. Mexico at Mid-Century -- Chapter 5. The Emperor's Antiquarian -- Chapter 6. Confronting a Different Paris -- Chapter 7. Marketing a Collection -- Chapter 8. A Premier Collection -- Chapter 9. Narratives of Provenance -- Chapter 10. The Rue du Sommerard Decade -- Chapter 11. Of Fakes and Fakers -- Chapter 12. From Student to Teacher, Dealer to Curator -- Chapter 13. Good Deals and Bad -- Chapter 14. Back in Business -- Chapter 15. Fingerprints on Crystal Skulls -- Chapter 16. Courting the Smithsonian -- Chapter 17. Of Fakes, Forgers, and Frauds -- Chapter 18. "El Tocayo's" Triumph -- Chapter 19. Later Life -- Chapter 20. Afterlife -- Epilogue -- References -- Index.

Sommario/riassunto

"Eugene Boban began life in humble circumstances in Paris, traveled to the California Gold Rush, and later became a recognized authority on pre-Columbian cultures. He also invented an entire category of archaeological artifact: the Aztec crystal skull. By his own admission, he successfully "palmed off" a number of these crystal skulls on the curators of Europe's leading museums. How could that happen, and who was this man? Detailed are the travels, self-education, and archaeological explorations of Eugene Boban; this book also explores the circumstances that allowed him to sell fakes to museums that would remain undetected for over a century."--Provided by publisher.
