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Nota di contenuto	Acknowledgements -- Preface -- Chapter 1: Thomas Harriot, England's First Telescopist -- Chapter 2: The Legacy of Galileo -- Chapter 3: The Checkered Career of Simon Marius -- Chapter 4: The Era of Long Telescopes -- Chapter 5: Workers of Speculum -- Chapter 6: Charles Messier, the Ferret of Comets -- Chapter 7: Thomas Jefferson and His Telescopic Forays.-Chapter 8: The Herschel Legacy -- Chapter 9: Thinking Big – The Pioneers of Parsonstown -- Chapter 10: The Astronomical Adventures of William Lassell -- Chapter 11: Friedrich W. Bessel: The Man Who Dared to Measure -- Chapter 12: W. H. Smyth: The Admirable Admiral -- Chapter 13: The Stellar Contributions of Wilhelm von Struve -- Chapter 14: The Eagle-Eyed Reverend William Rutter Dawes -- Chapter 15: The Telescopes of the Reverend Thomas William Webb -- Chapter 16: The Astronomical Adventures of Artistic Nathaniel Everett Green -- Chapter 17: Edward Emerson Barnard, the Early Years -- Chapter 18: William F. Denning, a Biographical Sketch -- Chapter 19: A Modern Commentary on W. F. Denning's Telescopic Work

for Starlight Evenings (1891) -- Chapter 20: The Astronomical Legacy of Asaph Hall -- Chapter 21: The Life and Work of Charles Grover (1842-1921) -- Chapter 22: Angelo Secchi, Father of Modern Astrophysics -- Chapter 23: John Birmingham, T. H. E. C Espin and the Search for Red Stars -- Chapter 24: A Historic Clark Telescope Receives a New Lease on Life -- Chapter 25: A Short Commentary on Percival Lowell's "Mars as the Abode of Life" -- Chapter 26: The Great Meudon Refractor -- Chapter 27: A Short Commentary on R.G Aitken's The Binary Stars -- Chapter 28: S. W. Burnham – A Life Behind the Eyepiece -- Chapter 29: Voyage to the Planets: The Astronomical Forays of Arthur Stanley Williams (1861-1938) -- Chapter 30: Explorer of the Planets: The Contributions of the Reverend T. E. R. Philips -- Chapter 31: Highlights from the Life of Leslie C. Peltier -- Chapter 32: Clyde W. Tombaugh; Discoverer of Pluto -- Chapter 33: A Short Commentary on Walter Scott Houston's "Deep Sky Wonders" -- Chapter 34: A Short Commentary on David H. Levy's The Quest for Comets -- Chapter 35: George Alcock and the Historic Ross Refractor -- Chapter 36: Whatever Happened to Robert Burnham Junior? -- Chapter 37: The Impact of Mount Wilson's 60-inch Reflector -- Chapter 38: Seeing Saturnian Spots Chapter 39: John Dobson and His Revolution -- Chapter 40: The Telescopes of Sir Patrick Moore (1923-2012) -- Chapter 41: A Gift of a Telescope: The Japan 400 Project -- Appendix: Achievements of the Classical Refractor – A Timeline -- Index. .

Sommario/riassunto

The invention of the telescope at the dawning of the 17th century has revolutionized humanity's understanding of the Universe and our place within it. This book traces the development of the telescope over four centuries, as well as the many personalities who used it to uncover brand-new revelations about the Sun, Moon, planets, stars and distant galaxies. Starting with early observers such as Thomas Harriot, Galileo, Johannes Hevelius, Giovanni Domenico Cassini, Robert Hooke and Christian Huygens, the book explores how these early observers arrived at essentially correct ideas concerning the objects they studied. Moving into the 18th and 19th centuries, the author describes the increasing sophistication of telescopes both large and small, and the celebrated figures who used them so productively, including the Herschels, Charles Messier, William Lassell and the Earls of Rosse. Many great discoveries were also made with smaller instruments when placed in the capable hands of the Struve dynasty, F.W. Bessel, Angelo Secchi and S.W Burnham, to name but a few. Nor were all great observers of professional ilk. The book explores the contributions made by the 'clerical astronomers,' William Rutter Dawes, Thomas William Webb, T.E. R Philips and T.H.E.C Espin, as well as the lonely vigils of E.E. Barnard, William F. Denning and Charles Grover. And in the 20th century, the work of Percival Lowell, Leslie Peltier, Eugene M. Antoniadi, Clyde Tombaugh, Walter Scott Houston, David H. Levy and Sir Patrick Moore is fully explored. Generously illustrated throughout, this treasure trove of astronomical history shows how each observer's work led to seminal developments in science, and providing key insights into how we go about exploring the heavens today.
