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Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Acknowledgements -- Introduction -- Part I Hungarian Holocaust -- Introduction -- Germany and the Hungarian Holocaust -- Antecedents -- Rounding Up -- Life in the Ghetto -- Journey by Livestock Cars -- What Did They Know? -- Disembarkment -- The First Hours -- What Did They See? -- Camp Life -- Nutrition: Barely Enough to Die -- Death by Labor -- Victim Behavior, Humanity -- Guards, Kapos, Fellow Prisoners, and Civilians -- Resistance -- Transfer, Evacuation -- Liberation -- Part II Arrow Cross Terror -- Introduction -- Terrorist Spaces -- Numbers -- Rescue and Betrayal -- The Complexity of Rescue: The Sisters of Divine Love -- The Power of Housekeepers -- Torn Identities -- Execution, Torture, Robbery -- What Motivated Them? -- Who Were They? -- Annihilation -- Escape -- Survival of Humanity -- Between Political Extremes -- Part III Stalinism in Hungary -- Soviet Occupation, Deportation -- New Dictatorship, Old Habits -- A New Elite -- Life under Repression -- Terror from Below -- Collaboration, Resistance -- Self-Policing or "Total Control"? -- The Scope of Repression -- The Top-Down, Bottom-Up Dynamic of Dictatorial Rule -- Conclusion -- Bibliography -- Index of Personal Names

A complex array of individual responses to the abuse of power by the state is represented in this book in three horrific episodes in the history of East-Central Europe. The three events followed each other within a span of about ten years: the deportation and murder of Hungarian Jews in Nazi death and labor camps; the Arrow Cross terrorist rule in Budapest; and finally the Stalinist terror in Hungary and East-Central Europe. Through the prism of survival, László Borhi explores the relationship between the individual and power, attempting to understand the mechanism of oppression and terror produced by arbitrary, unbridled power through the experience of normal people. Despite the obvious peculiarities of time and place, the Hungarian cases convey universal lessons about the Holocaust, Nazism, and Stalinism. In the author's conception, the National Socialist and Stalinist experiences are linked on several levels. Both regimes defended their visions of the future against social groups whom they saw as implacable enemies of those visions, and who therefore had to be destroyed for sake of social perfection. Furthermore, the social practices of National Socialism were passed on. And although Stalinism was imposed by a foreign power, some of the survival skills for coping with it were rehearsed under the previous hellish experience.
