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**Note generali**

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**Nota di bibliografia**

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**Nota di contenuto**

Front matter -- CONTENTS -- 1. Preamble -- 2. The Philosopher Who Would Not Be King -- 3. Hermit in the Water of Life -- 4. Writing Workshop -- 5. How Much Home Does a Person Need? -- 6. Clearings in the Bush -- 7. The Gulf of Corinth -- 8. It's Other People Who Are My Old Age -- 9. Objects in Mirror Are Closer Than They Appear -- 10. I Am an Other -- 11. Yonder -- 12. Reading Siddhartha to Freya at Forest Lake -- 13. On the Work and Writing of Ethnography -- Acknowledgments -- Notes -- Index

**Sommario/riassunto**

Michael Jackson extends his path-breaking work in existential anthropology by focusing on the interplay between two modes of human existence: that of participating in other peoples' lives and that of turning inward to one's self. Grounding his discussion in the subtle shifts between being acted upon and taking action, Jackson shows how the historical complexities and particularities found in human interactions reveal the dilemmas, conflicts, cares, and concerns that shape all of our lives. Through portraits of individuals encountered in the course of his travels, including friends and family, and anthropological fieldwork pursued over many years in such places as Sierra Leone and Australia, Jackson explores variations on this theme. As he describes the ways we address and negotiate the vexed relationships between "I" and "we"-the one and the many-he is also led to consider the place of thought in human life.