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¡Sexo y violencia! Take one part Mexi-Monster cinema, one part Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, throw in a little Zoro, the WWF, and the knit-costume-wearing performance art collective, Forcefield, and you come up with the raw, vivid, and psychologically unhinged world of Lucha Libre the sports-entertainment phenomenon that first swept Mexico and now the world. Photographer Lourdes Grobet's penetrating study of Mexican professional wrestling culture features over 500 photographs of luchadores like Blue Demon, Santo, The Witch, Adorable Rubí, El Solitario, and Hurricane Ramirez, as well as pictures of their families, friends, and fans--onstage, backstage, and even at home. Lucha Libre also includes photographs of stickers, flyers, postcards, stills from Mexi-lucha-cinema, interviews with the wrestlers, essays, and much, much more! In this comprehensive 20-year study, Grobet has put together THE definitive look at Mexico's masked superstars. ¡Viva la Lucha Libre! For 20 years, photographer Lourdes Grobet has penetrated the world of one of the most popular sports and deep-seated traditions in Mexico: Lucha Libre-wrestling. During that time, Grobet has been a frequent visitor, not only to the arenas, but to the private homes where male and female wrestlers meet and celebrate their victories, and live out their everyday lives. Grobet's passion for this sporting ritual has led her to gather not only thousands of photographs, but a vast collection of wrestling-meet posters and programs, newspaper clippings, postcards, flyers, magazine covers, movie posters, stickers, and diverse objects that form part of wrestling paraphernalia. These items are reproduced here in the stunning and rich colors and tones associated with Mexico's vibrant culture. An important manifestation of Mexican popular culture with roots in antiquity, associated with ritual, possessing ties to the theatre, and profoundly identified with current social phenomena. -Lourdes Grobet Edited by Alfonso Morales.