Record Nr. UNINA9910136698103321 Autore Starecheski Amy Titolo Ours to Lose: When Squatters Became Homeowners in New York City / / Amy Starecheski Pubbl/distr/stampa Chicago:,: University of Chicago Press,, [2016] ©2016 **ISBN** 0-226-40000-X Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (327 pages) Classificazione LB 72610 333.338097471 Disciplina Soggetti Squatter settlements - New York (State) - New York Squatters - New York (State) - New York Occupancy (Law) - New York (State) - New York - History - 21st century Occupancy (Law) - New York (State) - New York - History - 20th century Occupancy (Law) - Social aspects Home ownership - Social aspects Squatters - New York (State) - New York - Attitudes Manhattan (New York, N.Y.) History 20th century Manhattan (New York, N.Y.) History 21st century Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Previously issued in print: 2016. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Frontmatter -- Contents -- The Narrators -- The Eleven Buildings --Introduction -- 1. From Drug Murder to Door Ceremony: Claiming Buildings, Building Claims -- 2. Who Deserves Housing?: The Battle for East Thirteenth Street -- 3. Making the Deal: Debating the Values of Housing -- 4. Why Work?: The Values of Labor -- 5. Making Claims on the Past and the Future: Debt, Kinship, History, and the Temporality of

-- Notes -- References -- Index

Sommario/riassunto

Though New York's Lower East Side today is home to high-end condos

and hip restaurants, it was for decades an infamous site of blight, open-air drug dealing, and class conflict-an emblematic example of the tattered state of 1970s and '80s Manhattan. Those decades of

Homeownership -- Conclusion -- Acknowledgments -- Abbreviations

strife, however, also gave the Lower East Side something unusual: a radical movement that blended urban homesteading and European-style squatting in a way never before seen in the United States. Ours to Lose tells the oral history of that movement through a close look at a diverse group of Lower East Side squatters who occupied abandoned city-owned buildings in the 1980s, fought to keep them for decades, and eventually began a long, complicated process to turn their illegal occupancy into legal cooperative ownership. Amy Starecheski here not only tells a little-known New York story, she also shows how property shapes our sense of ourselves as social beings and explores the ethics of homeownership and debt in post-recession America.