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Nota di contenuto	Introduction: Reading the episode in the early republic -- 1. The poetics of constitutional consolidation -- 2. The life in episodes -- 3. The fiction of hesitation -- 4. Miscellany and the structure of style.
Sommario/riassunto	The early United States was a culture of the episode. In this book, Matthew Garrett merges narrative theory with social and political history to explain the early American fascination with the episodic, piecemeal plot.