1. Record Nr. UNINA9910272352703321 Autore Forrest John <1951-> Titolo Lord I'm Coming Home: Everyday Aesthetics in Tidewater North Carolina / / John Forrest Pubbl/distr/stampa Ithaca, NY:,: Cornell University Press,, [2018] ©1988 **ISBN** 1-5017-2784-2 1-5017-2629-3 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (59 pages) Collana The Anthropology of Contemporary Issues Altri autori (Persone) BlincoeDeborah Disciplina 301.09756 Soggetti Ethnology - North Carolina Aesthetics - Social aspects - North Carolina North Carolina Social life and customs Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Frontmatter -- Contents -- Preface -- 1. The Fishing Day -- 2. The Aesthetic Realm -- 3. The Field Site -- 4. Aesthetics at Home -- 5. Aesthetics at Work -- 6. Aesthetics of the Church -- 7. Aesthetics of Leisure -- 8. Synthesis -- Appendix A: Outlines of Selected Sermons --Appendix B: Tale of Wallace Tyler, Version #2 -- References -- Index Sommario/riassunto Lord I'm Coming Home focuses on a small, white, rural fishing community on the southern reaches of the Great Dismal Swamp in North Carolina. By means of a new kind of anthropological fieldwork, John Forrest seeks to document the entire aesthetic experience of a group of people, showing the aesthetic to be an "everyday experience" and not some rarefied and pure behavior reserved for an artistic elite. "The opening chapter of the book is a vivid fictional narrative of a typical day in "Tidewater," presented from the perspective of one fisherman. In the following two chapters the author sets forth the philosophical and anthropological foundations of his book, paying particular attention to problems of defining "aesthetic," to methodological concerns, and to the natural landscape of his field site. Reviewing his own experience as both participant and observer, he then

describes in scrupulous detail the aesthetic forms in four areas of

Tidewater life: home, work, church, and leisure. People use these forms, Forrest shows, to establish personal and group identities, facilitate certain kinds of interactions while inhibiting others, and cue appropriate behavior. His concluding chapter deals with the different life cycles of men and women, insider-outsider relations, secular and sacred domains, the image and metaphor of "home," and the essential role that aesthetics plays in these spheres. The first ethnography to evoke the full aesthetic life of a community, Lord I'm Coming Home will be important reading not only for anthropologists but also for scholars and students in the fields of American studies, art, folklore, and sociology.