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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 182-191) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Book Cover; Title; Contents; List of figures and tables; List of illustrations; Acknowledgements; Introduction; THE SOCIOECONOMIC ORGANIZATION OF THE THEATRE; Family dynasties, recruitment, and career opportunities for women; The Profession's divisions of labour; Wages; SEX, GENDER, AND SOCIAL DEMOGRAPHY; The Female Surplus Question and the sex ratio; The female life; Professional welfare; THE SOCIAL DYNAMIC AND 'RESPECTABILITY'; Actresses' defiance of socioeconomic prescriptions; Actresses and prostitutes; Sexual harassment; The quintessential sexual terror; ACTRESSES AND THE MISE EN SCNE Costuming the erotic topography Gesture: 'Every little movement has a meaning of its own'; Figural composition in the mise en scene; Erotic verification; THE GEOGRAPHY OF SEX IN SOCIETY AND THEATRE; The erotic neighbourhood outside the playhouse; Erotic zones within the playhouse; Forestalling the erotic; Notes; Bibliography; Index
Sommario/riassunto	Using historical evidence as well as personal accounts, Tracy C. Davis examines the reality of conditions for `ordinary' actresses, their

working environments, employment patterns and the reasons why acting continued to be such a popular, though insecure, profession. Firmly grounded in Marxist and feminist theory she looks at representations of women on stage, and the meanings associated with and generated by them.

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