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Soggetti	American prose literature - African American authors - History and criticism American prose literature - Women authors - History and criticism American prose literature - 19th century - History and criticism Women and literature - United States - History - 19th century African American women - History and criticism African American women - Intellectual life - 19th century African American women in the professions - History African American women - Employment - History Narration (Rhetoric) - History - 19th century Autobiography - African American authors African American women in literature Autobiography - Women authors Electronic books.
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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Race, work, and literary authority in the Narrative of Sojourner Truth -- The view from below : menial labor and self-reliance in Harriet Wilson's Our Nig -- Enterprising women and the labors of femininity : Eliza Potter, Cincinnati hairdresser -- Behind the scenes of Black labor : Elizabeth Keckley and the scandal of publicity.
Sommario/riassunto	According to nineteenth-century racial uplift ideology, African American women served their race best as reformers and activists, or as "doers of the word." This book examines the autobiographies of four women who diverged from that ideal and

defended the legitimacy of their self-supporting wage labor.
