

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910451691703321
Autore	Donaldson Scott <1928->
Titolo	Edwin Arlington Robinson [[electronic resource] ] : a poet's life // Scott Donaldson
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York ; ; Chichester, : Columbia University Press, 2007
ISBN	0-231-51099-3
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (1107 p.)
Disciplina	811.52
Soggetti	Poets, American - 20th century Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [517]-535) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Introduction -- 1. A Hell of a Name for a Poet -- 2. A Manor Town in Maine -- 3. Never So Young Again -- 4. Fall of the House of Robinson -- 5. A "Special" at Harvard -- 6. Farewell to Carefree Days -- 7. Shaping a Life -- 8. Loves Lost -- 9. Breaking Away -- 10. Poetry as a Calling -- 11. City of Artists -- 12. The Saga of Captain Craig -- 13. Down and Out -- 14. Theater Days -- 15. The End of Something -- 16. Down and Out, Yet Again -- 17. Life in the Woods, Death in Boston -- 18. Reversal of Fortune -- 19. A Poet Once Again -- 20. A Breakthrough Book -- 21. Reaching Fifty -- 22. Seasons of Success -- 23. A Sojourn in England -- 24. MacDowell's First Citizen -- 25. Recognition and its Consequences -- 26. Generosities -- 27. Death of a Poet -- 28. Beyond the Sunset -- Acknowledgments -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	At the time of his death in 1935, Edwin Arlington Robinson was regarded as the leading American poet-the equal of Frost and Stevens. In this biography, Scott Donaldson tells the intriguing story of this poet's life, based in large part on a previously unavailable trove of more than 3,000 personal letters, and recounts his profoundly important role in the development of modern American literature. Born in 1869, the youngest son of a well-to-do family in Gardiner, Maine, Robinson had two brothers: Dean, a doctor who became a drug addict, and Herman, an alcoholic who squandered the family fortune. Robinson never married, but he fell in love as many as three times, most lastingly with

the woman who would become his brother Herman's wife. Despite his shyness, Robinson made many close friends, and he repeatedly went out of his way to give them his support and encouragement. Still, it was always poetry that drove him. He regarded writing poems as nothing less than his calling-what he had been put on earth to do. Struggling through long years of poverty and neglect, he achieved a voice and a subject matter all his own. He was the first to write about ordinary people and events-an honest butcher consumed by grief, a miser with "eyes like little dollars in the dark," ancient clerks in a dry goods store measuring out their days like bolts of cloth. In simple yet powerful rhetoric, he explored the interior worlds of the people around him. Robinson was a major poet and a pivotal figure in the course of modern American literature, yet over the years his reputation has declined. With his biography, Donaldson returns this remarkable talent to the pantheon of great American poets and sheds new light on his enduring legacy.

---