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Sommario/riassunto	In a provocative and fair-minded look at current critical practices and the future of the academy, Jeffrey Wallen draws a disturbing picture of public intellectuals in search of a public and cultural critics unable to enter a dialogue with others. Taking up several of the most influential critics of recent years-Edward Said, Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick, Michael Berube, Gerald Graff, Richard Rorty, Stanley Fish, and many others-Wallen explores the intersections between literary and actual politics.