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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Traditions of inquiry -- Forming selves in letters -- Writing with a purpose : immigrant epistolarity and the culture of emigration -- Using postal systems : transnational networks on the edge of modernity -- Establishing voice, theme, and rhythm -- When correspondence wanes -- Thomas Spencer Niblock : a dialogue of respectability and failure -- Catherine Grayston Bond : letter-writing as the practice of existential accounting -- Mary Ann Wodrow Archbald : longing for her "little isle" from a farm in central New York -- Dr. Thomas Steel : the difficulties of achieving the reunited family.

Sommario/riassunto

2008 United States Postal System's Rita Lloyd Moroney Award. In the era before airplanes and e-mail, how did immigrants keep in touch with loved ones in their homelands, as well as preserve links with pasts that were rooted in places from which they voluntarily left? Regardless of literacy level, they wrote letters, explains David A. Gerber in this path-breaking study of British immigrants to the U.S. and Canada who wrote and received letters during the nineteenth century. Scholars have long used immigrant letters as a lens to examine the experiences of immigrant groups and the communities the
