

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910454569403321
Autore	Conley Dalton <1969->
Titolo	Honky [[electronic resource] /] / Dalton Conley
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Berkeley, : University of California Press, c2000
ISBN	0-520-92173-9 1-59734-660-8
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (247 p.)
Disciplina	305.23/09747
Soggetti	Children, White - New York (State) - New York - Social conditions White people - Race identity - New York (State) - New York White people - New York (State) - New York African American children - New York (State) - New York - Social conditions Hispanic American children - New York (State) - New York - Social conditions Race awareness in children - New York (State) - New York Social classes - New York (State) - New York - History - 20th century Electronic books. Lower East Side (New York, N.Y.) Social conditions
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Prologue -- One. Black Babies -- Two. Trajectories -- Three. Downward Mobility -- Four. Race Lessons -- Five. Fear -- Six. Learning Class -- Seven. The Hawk -- Eight. Getting Paid -- Nine. Sesame Street -- Ten. Welcome to America -- Eleven. No Soap Radio -- Twelve. Moving On Up -- Thirteen. Disco Sucks -- Fourteen. Addictions -- Fifteen. Symmetry -- Sixteen. Fire -- Seventeen. Cultural Capital -- Epilogue -- Author's Note
Sommario/riassunto	This intensely personal and engaging memoir is the coming-of-age story of a white boy growing up in a neighborhood of predominantly African American and Latino housing projects on New York's Lower East Side. Vividly evoking the details of city life from a child's point of view—the streets, buses, and playgrounds—Honky poignantly illuminates the usual vulnerabilities of childhood complicated by unusual

circumstances. As he narrates these sharply etched and often funny memories, Conley shows how race and class shaped his life and the lives of his schoolmates and neighbors. A brilliant case study for illuminating the larger issues of inequality in American society, *Honky* brings us to a deeper understanding of the privilege of whiteness, the social construction of race, the power of education, and the challenges of inner-city life. Conley's father, a struggling artist, and his mother, an aspiring writer, joined Manhattan's bohemian subculture in the late 1960's, living on food stamps and raising their family in a housing project. We come to know his mother: her quirky tastes, her robust style, and the bargains she strikes with Dalton-not to ride on the backs of buses, and to always carry money in his shoe as protection against muggers. We also get to know his father, his face buried in racing forms, and his sister, who in grade school has a burning desire for cornrows. From the hilarious story of three-year-old Dalton kidnapping a black infant so he could have a baby sister to the deeply disturbing shooting of a close childhood friend, this memoir touches us with movingly rendered portraits of people and the unfolding of their lives. Conley's story provides a sophisticated example of the crucial role culture plays in defining race and class. Both of Conley's parents retained the "cultural capital" of the white middle class, and they passed this on to their son in the form of tastes, educational expectations, and a general sense of privilege. It is these advantages that ultimately provide Conley with his ticket to higher education and beyond. A tremendously good read, *Honky* addresses issues both timely and timeless that pertain to us all.
