Record Nr. UNINA9910454612103321 Autore Shulman George M **Titolo** American prophecy [[electronic resource]]: race and redemption in American political culture / / George Shulman Minneapolis, : University of Minnesota Press, c2008 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 0-8166-6618-0 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (340 p.) Disciplina 306.2089/00973 Soggetti Political culture - United States Prophecy in literature **Prophecy** Electronic books. United States Race relations Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references (p. 257-292) and index. Nota di contenuto Introducing Jeremiah's legacy: placing prophecy in American politics and political theory -- Thoreau, the reluctant prophet: moral witness and poetic vision in politics -- Interlude: from Henry Thoreau to Martin Luther King Jr. and James Baldwin: race and prophecy -- Martin Luther King Jr.'s theistic prophecy: love, sacrifice, and democratic politics --James Baldwin and the racial state of exception: secularizing prophecy? -- Toni Morrison and prophecy: "this is not a story to pass on" --Conclusion: prophecy as vernacular political theology. Sommario/riassunto Prophecy is the fundamental idiom of American politics-a biblical rhetoric about redeeming the crimes, suffering, and promise of a special people. Yet American prophecy and its great practitioners-from Frederick Douglass and Henry Thoreau to Martin Luther King, James Baldwin, and Toni Morrison-are rarely addressed, let alone analyzed, by political theorists. This paradox is at the heart of American Prophecy, a work in which George Shulman unpacks and critiques the political

meaning of American prophetic rhetoric. In the face of religious fundamentalisms that associate prophecy and redemption w