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Autore	Ackerman Bruce A
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Sommario/riassunto	Based on seven years of archival research, the book describes previously unknown aspects of the electoral college crisis of 1800, presenting a revised understanding of the early days of two great institutions that continue to have a major impact on American history: the plebiscitarian presidency and a Supreme Court that struggles to put the presidency's claims of a popular mandate into constitutional perspective. Through close studies of two Supreme Court cases,

Ackerman shows how the court integrated Federalist and Republican themes into the living Constitution of the early republic.
