

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910455162503321
Autore	Cook Richard M. <1941->
Titolo	Alfred Kazin [[electronic resource]] : a biography // Richard M. Cook
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New Haven, : Yale University Press, c2007
ISBN	1-282-08856-4 9786612088568 0-300-14504-7
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (463 p.)
Disciplina	809 B
Soggetti	American literature - History and criticism - Theory, etc Criticism - United States - History - 20th century Critics - United States Electronic books. United States Intellectual life 20th century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [413]-439) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- CHAPTER ONE. Brownsville -- CHAPTER TWO. The Thirties: Starting Out -- CHAPTER THREE. The Thirties: On Native Grounds -- CHAPTER FOUR. The Break 1942-1945 -- CHAPTER FIVE. After the Apocalypse 1945-1950 -- CHAPTER SIX. A Walker in the City -- CHAPTER SEVEN. Living in the Fifties 1951-1958 -- CHAPTER EIGHT. The Writer in the World: Part 1 1958-1963 -- CHAPTER NINE. The Writer in the World: Part 2 1963-1970 -- CHAPTER TEN. New York Jew 1970-1978 -- CHAPTER ELEVEN. A New Life 1978-1984 -- CHAPTER TWELVE. Politics -- CHAPTER THIRTEEN. "The End of Things" 1984-1998 -- Notes -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Born in 1915 to barely literate Jewish immigrants in the Brownsville section of Brooklyn, Alfred Kazin rose from near poverty to become a dominant figure in twentieth-century literary criticism and one of America's last great men of letters. Biographer Richard M. Cook provides a portrait of Kazin in his public roles and in his frequently unhappy private life. Drawing on the personal journals Kazin kept for

over 60 years, private correspondence, and numerous conversations with Kazin, he uncovers the full story of the lonely, stuttering boy from Jewish Brownsville who became a pioneering critic and influential cultural commentator. Upon the appearance of *On Native Grounds* in 1942, Kazin was dubbed "the boy wonder of American criticism." Numerous publications followed, including *A Walker in the City* and two other memoirs, books of criticism, as well as a stream of essays and reviews that ceased only with his death in 1998. Cook tells of Kazin's childhood, his troubled marriages, and his relations with such figures as Lionel Trilling, Saul Bellow, Malcolm Cowley, Arthur Schlesinger, Hannah Arendt, and Daniel Bell. He illuminates Kazin's thinking on political-cultural issues and the recurring way in which his subject's personal life shaped his career as a public intellectual. Particular attention is paid to Kazin's sense of himself as a Jewish-American "loner" whose inner estrangements gave him insight into the divisions at the heart of modern culture.
