

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910455451603321
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Titolo	But the Irish Sea betwixt us : Ireland, colonialism, and Renaissance literature // Andrew Murphy
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Lexington, Kentucky : , : The University Press of Kentucky, , 2009 ©1999
ISBN	0-8131-4950-9 0-8131-7013-3
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (240 p.)
Collana	Irish Literature, History, & Culture
Disciplina	820.9/32417/09031
Soggetti	English literature - Early modern, 1500-1700 - History and criticism English literature - Irish influences Colonies in literature Renaissance - England Electronic books. Ireland Foreign public opinion, English History 16th century Ireland History 1558-1603 Historiography Ireland Historiography Ireland In literature
Lingua di pubblicazione	Tedesco
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Cover; Title; Copyright; Contents; Acknowledgments; Introduction; 1. ""White Chimpanzees"": Encountering Ireland; 2. ""Ad Remotissimas Occidentis Insulas"": Gerald and the Irish; 3. ""They Are All Wandred Much: That Plaine Appeares"": Spenser and the Old English; 4. ""The Remarkablest Story of Ireland"": Shakespeare and the Irish War; 5. ""The Irish Game Turned Again"": Jonson and the Union; Conclusion: 1641 and After; Notes; Bibliography; Index; A; B; C; D; E; F; G; H; I; J; K; L; M; N; O; P; Q; R; S; T; U; V; W; Y
Sommario/riassunto	At the rise of the Tudor age, England began to form a national identity. With that sense of self came the beginnings of the colonialist notion of the ""other"" Ireland, however, proved a most difficult other because it was so closely linked, both culturally and geographically, to England.

Ireland's colonial position was especially complex because of the political, religious, and ethnic heritage it shared with England. Andrew Murphy asserts that the Irish were seen not as absolute but as "proximate" others. As a result, English writing about Ireland was a problematic process, since standard
