Record Nr. UNINA9910457531703321 Autore Bryant Jerry H. <1928-> Titolo Born in a mighty bad land [[electronic resource]]: the violent man in African American folklore and fiction / / Jerry H. Bryant Bloomington, : Indiana University Press, c2003 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-282-07213-7 0-253-10122-0 0-253-10989-2 9786612072130 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (251 p.) Collana Blacks in the diaspora Disciplina 813.009/355 American fiction - African American authors - History and criticism Soggetti Violence in literature Literature and folklore - United States African American men in literature African Americans Violence Men in literature Men Electronic books. Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto The classic badman and the ballad -- Postbellum violence and its causes: "displaced rage" in a preindustrial culture -- Between the wars : the genteel novel, counterstereotypes, and initial probes -- From the genteel to the primitive: the twenties and thirties -- The ghetto bildungsroman: from the forties to the seventies -- Toasts: tales of the "bad nigger" -- Chester Himes: Harlem absurd -- A "toast" novel: pimps, hoodlums, and hit men -- Walter Mosley and the violent men of Watts -- Rap: going commercial -- The badman and the storyteller: John Edgar Wideman's homewood trilogy -- Toni Morrison: Ulysses, badmen, and archetypes--abandoning violence -- Appendix : Analysis

of thirty prototype ballads.

## Sommario/riassunto

The figure of the violent man in the African American imagination has a long history. He can be found in 19th-century bad man ballads like 'Stagolee' and 'John Hardy,' as well as in the black convict recitations that influenced 'gansta' rap. Born in a Mighty Bad Land connects this figure with similar characters in African American fiction.