

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910457640903321
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Titolo	Novel bondage [[electronic resource] ] : slavery, marriage, and freedom in nineteenth-century America // Tess Chakkalaka
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Champaign, : University of Illinois Press, c2011
ISBN	1-283-22389-9 9786613223890 0-252-09338-0
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (159 p.)
Disciplina	813/.3093543
Soggetti	Slavery in literature Marriage in literature Slaves - United States - Social conditions African Americans in literature Electronic books.
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 and index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction: the slave-marriage plot -- Between fiction and experience: William Wells Brown's Clotel -- Dred and the freedom of marriage: Harriet Beecher Stowe's fiction of law -- Free, black, and married: Frank J. Webb's the Garies and their friends -- "A legally unmarried race": Frances Harper's marital mission -- Wedded to race: Charles Chesnut's stories of the color line -- Conclusion: reading Hannah Crafts in the twenty-first century.
Sommario/riassunto	Filling a long-standing gap in our knowledge about slave-marriage, 'Novel Bondage' unravels the interconnections between marriage, slavery, and freedom through renewed readings of canonical nineteenth-century novels and short stories by black and white authors. Tess Chakkalaka expertly mines antislavery and post-Civil War fiction to extract literary representations of slave-marriage, revealing how these texts and their public responses took aim not only at the horrors of slavery but also at the legal conventions of marriage.