1. Record Nr. UNINA9910461811403321 Autore Duquette Elizabeth <1963-> Titolo Loyal subjects [[electronic resource]]: bonds of nation, race, and allegiance in nineteenth-century America / / Elizabeth Duquette New Brunswick, N.J., : Rutgers University Press, c2010 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-283-38335-7 9786613383358 0-8135-5112-9 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (288 p.) Collana The American Literatures Initiative Disciplina 810.9/358735 American literature - 19th century - History and criticism Soggetti National characteristics, American, in literature Loyalty in literature Allegiance in literature Nationalism in literature Nationalism and literature - United States - History - 19th century Electronic books. United States History Civil War, 1861-1865 Literature and the war Inglese Lingua di pubblicazione **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali "American Literatures Initiative"--T.p. verso. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction: Nota di contenuto Pledging Allegiance -- 1 / Loyalty, Oaths, and the Nation -- 2 / One Big Happy Family, Again? -- 3 / Pledging Allegiance in Henry James --4 / Loyalty's Slaves -- 5 / Philosophies of Loyalty -- Afterword --Notes -- Index -- About the Author Sommario/riassunto When one nation becomes two, or when two nations become one, what does national affiliation mean or require? Elizabeth Duquette answers this question by demonstrating how loyalty was used during the U.S. Civil War to define proper allegiance to the Union. For Northerners during the war, and individuals throughout the nation after Appomattox, loyalty affected the construction of national identity, moral authority, and racial characteristics. Loyal Subjects considers how the Civil War complicated the cultural value of emotion, especially the

ideal of sympathy. Through an analysis of literary works written during and after the conflict-from Nathaniel Hawthorne's "Chiefly About War Matters" through Henry James's The Bostonians and Charles Chestnutt's "The Wife of His Youth," to the Pledge of Allegiance and W.E.B. Du Bois's John Brown, among many others-Duquette reveals that although American literary criticism has tended to dismiss the Civil War's impact, postwar literature was profoundly shaped by loyalty.