Record Nr. UNINA9910463271903321 Playing house in the American West: western women's life narratives, **Titolo** 1839-1987 / / [edited by] Cathryn Halverson Pubbl/distr/stampa Tuscaloosa:,: The University of Alabama Press,, [2013] ©2013 **ISBN** 0-8173-8686-6 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (264 p.) HalversonCathryn Altri autori (Persone) 810.9/9287 Disciplina Autobiography - Women authors - History and criticism Soggetti Domestic space in literature Women and literature - West (U.S.) Women authors, American - West (U.S.) Women in literature Electronic books. West (U.S.) In literature Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Contents; Illustrations; Acknowledgments; Introduction; Chapter 1. Playing House on the Froniter - Caroline Kirkland and Louise Clappe: Chapter 2. ""Your Ex-Washlady"": Elinore Pruitt Stewart, the Woman Homesteader of Wyoming; Chapter 3. ""Straight-Made in Nothing"": Mary MacLane and Domestic Ritual; Chapter 4. Girls of the Limberlost: Gene Stratton-Porter and Opal Whiteley; Chapter 5. ""Wind and Sun Are Good Housekeepers"": The Domestic Narratives of Mary Austin and Zitkala-Sa; Chapter 6. Camps, Caves, and Attics: Plaving House in Willa Cather's Western Novels Chapter 7. My Great, Wide, Beautiful World: Home Writing as Travel WritingChapter 8. Eating in, Eating Out, and Eating al Otro Lado: M.F.K. Fisher's The Gastronomical Me; Chapter 9. Searching for Home: Jean Stafford's West; Chapter 10. The Once and Future Home: Housekeeping and Anywhere but Here; Conclusion. ""I Am Going to 'Play Like' You Have Come""; Notes; Works Cited; Index

Examining an eclectic group of western women's autobiographical

Sommario/riassunto

texts-canonical and otherwise-Playing House in the American West argues for a distinct regional literary tradition characterized by strategic representations of unconventional domestic life. The controlling metaphor Cathryn Halverson uses in her engrossing study is "playing house." From Caroline Kirkland and Laura Ingalls Wilder to Willa Cather and Marilynne Robinson, from the mid-nineteenth to the late-twentieth centuries, western authors have persistently embraced wayward or eccentric housekeeping to