Record Nr. UNINA9910463519903321 Autore Wells Ira <1981-> Titolo Fighting words [[electronic resource]]: polemics and social change in literary naturalism / / Ira Wells Tuscaloosa,: University of Alabama Press, 2013 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 0-8173-8677-7 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (206 p.) Collana Studies in American literary realism and naturalism 810.9/12 Disciplina American fiction - 20th century - History and criticism Soggetti Naturalism in literature Social problems in literature Electronic books. 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 Naturalism: a polemical introduction -- An education -- The polemical nature of naturalism in America -- Against the grain: ecology, environmentalism, and Frank Norris's The octopus -- Crimes of art and nature: an American tragedy and the problem of abortion -- "What I killed for, I am": domestic terror in Richard Wright's America --Epilogue. Sommario/riassunto Fighting Words offers an entirely new understanding of what literary naturalism is and why it matters. Ira Wells, countering the standard narrative of literary naturalism's much-touted concern with environmental and philosophical determinism, draws attention to the polemical essence of the genre and demonstrates how literary naturalists engaged instead with explosive political and cultural issues that remain fervently debated today. Naturalist writers, Wells argues in Fighting Words, are united less by a coherent philosophy than by an

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