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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction: The Mississippi Freedom Schools -- "The pathway from slavery to freedom" : the origins of education and the ideology of liberation in Mississippi -- "There was something happening" : the early education and politicization of the freedom school students -- "The student as a force for social change" : the politics and organization of the Mississippi Freedom Schools -- "We will walk in the light of freedom" : attending and teaching in the freedom schools -- "I can't leave" : educational activism and reconceptualizing freedom after the summer campaign -- Carrying forth the struggle : freedom schools and contemporary educational policy -- Epilogue: Remembering the freedom schools during the contemporary civil rights movement.
Sommario/riassunto	Created in 1964 as part of the Mississippi Freedom Summer, the Mississippi Freedom Schools were launched by educators and activists to provide an alternative education for African American students that would facilitate student activism and participatory democracy. The schools, as Jon N. Hale demonstrates, had a crucial role in the civil

rights movement and a major impact on the development of progressive education throughout the nation. Designed and run by African American and white educators and activists, the Freedom Schools counteracted segregationist policies that inhibited opportunities for black youth. Providing high-quality, progressive education that addressed issues of social justice, the schools prepared African American students to fight for freedom on all fronts. Forming a political network, the Freedom Schools taught students how, when, and where to engage politically, shaping activists who trained others to challenge inequality. Based on dozens of first-time interviews with former Freedom School students and teachers and on rich archival materials, this remarkable social history of the Mississippi Freedom Schools is told from the perspective of those frequently left out of civil rights narratives that focus on national leadership or college protestors. Hale reveals the role that school-age students played in the civil rights movement and the crucial contribution made by grassroots activists on the local level. He also examines the challenges confronted by Freedom School activists and teachers, such as intimidation by racist Mississippians and race relations between blacks and whites within the schools. In tracing the stories of Freedom School students into adulthood, this book reveals the ways in which these individuals turned training into decades of activism. Former students and teachers speak eloquently about the principles that informed their practice and the influence that the Freedom School curriculum has had on education. They also offer key strategies for further integrating the American school system and politically engaging today's youth.

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