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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [271]-294) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Language that cannot be misunderstood : African American commemoration, 1863-1913 The vanguard of liberty must look into the past : celebrations of freedom A resurrection of manhood : gendered reconstruction Has emancipation been a failure? : the end of Reconstruction Signs of the times : making progress in the post- Reconstruction South Bosoms filled with hope : collective representation in the age of Jim Crow.
Sommario/riassunto	The historical memory of the Civil War and Reconstruction has earned increasing attention from scholars. Only recently, however, have historians begun to explore African American efforts to interpret those events. With Defining Moments, Kathleen Clark shines new light on African American commemorative traditions in the South, where events

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such as Emancipation Day and Fourth of July ceremonies served as
opportunities for African Americans to assert their own understandings
of slavery, the Civil War, and Emancipationefforts that were vital to
the struggles to define, assert, and defend