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Titolo	Sodom on the Thames : Sex, Love, and Scandal in Wilde Times // Morris B. Kaplan
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Soggetti	English literature - England - London - History and criticism Homosexuality and literature - England - History - 19th century Male homosexuality - England - London - History - 19th century Sex customs - England - London - History - 19th century English literature - 19th century - History and criticism Scandals - England - London - History - 19th century Sex customs in literature Sexual orientation in literature SOCIAL SCIENCE Gay Studies London (England) In literature London (England) Social life and customs 19th century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
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Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Eros in the Archives: An Introduction -- Prologue: A Walk on the Wild Side -- Part One: Sex in the City -- Part Two: Love Stories -- Part Three: West End Scandals -- Part Four: Wilde' s Time -- Epilogue: "Sex-Mania" -- Telling Tales: Some Conclusions -- Acknowledgments -- Notes -- Suggestions for Further Reading -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Sodom on the Thames looks closely at three episodes involving sex between men in late-nineteenth-century England. Morris Kaplan draws on extensive research into court records, contemporary newspaper

accounts, personal correspondence and diaries, even a pornographic novel. He focuses on two notorious scandals and one quieter incident. In 1871, transvestites "Stella" (Ernest Boulton) and "Fanny" (Frederick Park), who had paraded around London's West End followed by enthusiastic admirers, were tried for conspiracy to commit sodomy. In 1889-1890, the "Cleveland Street affair" revealed that telegraph delivery boys had been moonlighting as prostitutes for prominent gentlemen, one of whom fled abroad. In 1871, Eton schoolmaster William Johnson resigned in disgrace, generating shockwaves among the young men in his circle whose romantic attachments lasted throughout their lives. Kaplan shows how profoundly these scandals influenced the trials of Oscar Wilde in 1895 and contributed to growing anxiety about male friendships. Sodom on the Thames reconstructs these incidents in rich detail and gives a voice to the diverse people involved. It deepens our understanding of late Victorian attitudes toward urban culture, masculinity, and male homoeroticism. Kaplan also explores the implications of such historical narratives for the contemporary politics of sexuality.
