

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910779540703321
Autore	Michelson Bruce <1948->
Titolo	Printer's devil [[electronic resource]] : Mark Twain and the American publishing revolution // Bruce Michelson
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Berkeley, : University of California Press, 2006
ISBN	0-520-93284-6
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (317 p.)
Disciplina	818/.409
Soggetti	Printing in literature Printing - United States - History - 19th century Publishers and publishing - United States - History - 19th century Authors and publishers - United States - History - 19th century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Sam Clemens and the printed word -- The mischief of the press -- "But now everybody goes everywhere" -- Huckleberry Finn and the American print revolution -- Mark Twain and the information age -- Afterword : Mark Twain for the next fifteen minutes.
Sommario/riassunto	Trained as a printer when still a boy, and thrilled throughout his life by the automation of printing and the headlong expansion of American publishing, Mark Twain wrote about the consequences of this revolution for culture and for personal identity. Printer's Devil is the first book to explore these themes in some of Mark Twain's best-known literary works, and in his most daring speculations-on American society, the modern condition, and the nature of the self. Playfully and anxiously, Mark Twain often thought about typeset words and published images as powerful forces-for political and moral change, personal riches and ruin, and epistemological turmoil. In his later years, Mark Twain wrote about the printing press as a center of metaphysical power, a force that could alter the fabric of reality. Studying these themes in Mark Twain's writings, Bruce Michelson also provides a fascinating overview of technological changes that transformed the American printing and publishing industries during Twain's lifetime, changes that opened new possibilities for content, for speed of

production, for the size and diversity of a potential audience, and for international fame. The story of Mark Twain's life and art, amid this media revolution, is a story with powerful implications for our own time, as we ride another wave of radical change: for printed texts, authors, truth, and consciousness.
