Record Nr. UNINA9910781880703321 Autore Kuklick Bruce <1941-> Titolo Black philosopher, white academy [[electronic resource]]: the career of William Fontaine / / Bruce Kuklick Philadelphia, : University of Pennsylvania Press, c2008 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-283-21234-X 9786613212344 0-8122-0541-3 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (192 p.) 191 Disciplina В Soggetti African American educators Philosophy teachers - United States Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references (p. [137]-159) and index. "Bibliography of the writings of William Fontaine": p. [161]-163. Nota di contenuto A cultured education -- A student of philosophy -- Ambition constrained -- The sociology of knowledge -- Social change and World War II -- The ambiguity of success -- Social philosophy and civil rights -- Conservative pan-Africanism -- White racism and black power. At a time when almost all African American college students attended Sommario/riassunto black colleges, philosopher William Fontaine was the only black member of the University of Pennsylvania faculty-and quite possibly

black colleges, philosopher William Fontaine was the only black member of the University of Pennsylvania faculty-and quite possibly the only black member of any faculty in the Ivy League. Little is known about Fontaine, but his predicament was common to African American professionals and intellectuals at a critical time in the history of civil rights and race relations in the United States. Black Philosopher, White Academy is at once a biographical sketch of a man caught up in the issues and the dilemmas of race in the middle of the last century; a portrait of a salient aspect of academic life then; and an intellectual history of a period in African American life and letters, the discipline of philosophy, and the American academy. It is also a meditation on the sources available to a practicing historian and, frustratingly, the sources that are not. Bruce Kuklick stays close to the slim packet of

evidence left on Fontaine's life and career but also strains against its limitations to extract the largest possible insights into the life of the elusive Fontaine.