

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910782079503321
Autore	Cumberland George <1754-1848.>
Titolo	The captive of the Castle of Sennaar [[electronic resource]] : an African tale // George Cumberland ; edited by G.E. Bentley
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Montreal, : McGill-Queen's University Press, c1991
ISBN	0-7735-6235-4
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (416 p.)
Altri autori (Persone)	BentleyG. E <1930-> (Gerald Eades)
Disciplina	823/.6
Soggetti	English literature Folklore - Africa
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	pt. 1. The Sophians -- pt. 2. The reformed.
Sommario/riassunto	The first part, set on an island in central Africa among descendants of classical Greek civilization, was printed in 1789 but immediately suppressed by Cumberland. A passage describing society everywhere except on the utopian island as oligarchic and unjust was deemed by his lawyer to be potentially seditious; the novel was only published a decade later, and then in revised form. The second part, set in central Africa's Mountains of the Moon among descendants of followers of a fourth-century Christian heretic, is published here for the first time. Cumberland was a widely cultivated and deeply humane dilettante. A poet, painter, distinguished collector of prints and shells, and scientific inventor, he was passionately concerned with the reform of politics and society. He was also friends with some of the best authors and painters of his time, including William Blake, who encouraged Cumberland's ideals. Bentley describes the similarities between Blake's radical analysis of society and his early ideas on free love, sexuality, slavery, natural religion, and energy and the ideals Cumberland espouses in <i>The Captive of the Castle of Sennaar</i> . Bentley provides historical and geographical appendixes, textual and commentary notes, and a comparison of Cumberland's work to Simon Berington's <i>The Memoirs of Signor Gaudentino di Lucca</i> . Bentley's edition of <i>The Captive of the Castle of Sennaar</i> will be of interest to Blake scholars and to students

and scholars of utopian literature and late eighteenth-century and Romantic literature and culture.
