Record Nr. UNINA9910782560903321 Autore Berman Russell A. <1950-> **Titolo** Fiction sets you free [[electronic resource]]: literature, liberty, and western culture / / Russell A. Berman Iowa City,: University Of Iowa Press, c2007 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-58729-709-4 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (263 p.) Disciplina 809.3 Soggetti Fiction - History and criticism - Theory, etc 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 (p. [223]-228) and index. Nota di contenuto Contents: Acknowledgments: Why Literature Matters: Introduction: 1. Periodization and the Canon; 2. Human Origins and Literary Beginnings; 3. Writing and Heroism; 4. Literacy and Autonomy; 5. The Epic and the Individual; 6. Religion and Writing; 7. The Democracy of Literature; 8. Imagination and Economy; Notes; Bibliography; Index Sommario/riassunto In what can only be called a genuine intellectual adventure, Russell Berman raises fundamental questions long ignored by literary scholars; Why does literature command our attention at all? Why would society want to cultivate a sphere of activity devoted to the careful study of literary fiction? Written as a tonic to what he calls the debilitating cultural relativism of contemporary literary studies, Fiction Sets You Free advances the innovative argument that literature and capitalism.

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