

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910784159203321
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Titolo	Van Loon [[electronic resource] ] : popular historian, journalist, and FDR confidant // Cornelis A. van Minnen
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York, : Palgrave Macmillan, 2005
ISBN	1-281-36792-3 9786611367923 1-4039-7714-3
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (XVI, 353 p.)
Collana	The world of the Roosevelts
Disciplina	973.917/092
Soggetti	Journalists - United States Historians - 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. [331]-343) and index.
Sommario/riassunto	Upon his death, Hendrik van Loon was described in The Times obituary as 'one of the most engaging products of the marriage between Holland and the United States'. One of FDR's true and closest friends, van Loon emigrated from the Netherlands to the United States at age 20, in 1902. Working as a historian, journalist, illustrator, and radio commentator, van Loon immersed himself in American cultural life from the 1920's through the '40s, until his death three months before D-Day. Van Loon's professional relationships and friendships with such distinguished persons as Sinclair Lewis, Van Wyck Brooks, H. L. Mencken, Albert Einstein, Herbert Hoover, and Fiorello La Guardia bolster his place as a celebrity of his times. This biography is an exciting and nuanced portrait of a man deeply involved in American cultural life in the first half of the twentieth century.