

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910785226303321
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Titolo	Milton's vision : the birth of Christian liberty // Theo Hobson
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London, [England] ; ; New York, [New York] : , : Continuum, , 2008 ©2008
ISBN	1-282-87657-0 9786612876578 1-4411-8608-5
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (193 p.)
Disciplina	821.4
Soggetti	Christianity and literature - England - History - 17th century Liberty - Religious aspects - Christianity
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	Contents; Acknowledgements; Introduction; 1 The Broken Revolution; 2 A Literary Calling; 3 Taking Sides; 4 The Idea of a Free Christian Society; 5 New Order; 6 In Retreat; 7 The Epics; Conclusion; Index
Sommario/riassunto	No writer is so grudgingly admired. He wrote great poetry, goes the received wisdom, but his creed was narrow, chilling, inhuman. He was a Puritan. This toxic label implies that he supported an authoritarian form of Protestantism that was intent on imposing itself upon the nation, banning its fun, policing its very thoughts. This says the author is one of the oddest reputations in the entire history of ideas. No contemporary opposed religious authoritarianism with such vehemence. No one was so adamant that political freedom is built into the Christian gospel. This book concentrates on Milton's