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Autore	Schutt Amy C
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Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Prologue "Sachems from nine different places" -- Chapter 1. Communities and Kin -- Chapter 2. Reorganizations and Relationships in the Hudson and Delaware Valleys, 1609-82 -- 'He knew the best how to order them' -- Chapter 3. Sharing Lands and Asserting Rights in the Face of Pennsylvania's Expansion, 1682-1742 -- Chapter 4. Networks, Alliances, and Power, 1742-65 -- "All the people which inhabit this Continent" -- Chapter 5. Defining Delawares, 1765-74 -- Chapter 6. Striving for Unity with Diversity, 1768-83 -- Epilogue. "Sit down by us as a nation" -- Abbreviations -- Notes -- Index -- Acknowledgments
Sommario/riassunto	Seventeenth-century Indians from the Delaware and lower Hudson valleys organized their lives around small-scale groupings of kin and communities. Living through epidemics, warfare, economic change, and physical dispossession, survivors from these peoples came together in new locations, especially the eighteenth-century Susquehanna and Ohio River valleys. In the process, they did not abandon kin and community orientations, but they increasingly defined a role for themselves as Delaware Indians in early American society. Peoples of the River Valleys offers a fresh interpretation of the history of the Delaware, or Lenape, Indians in the context of events in the mid-

Atlantic region and the Ohio Valley. It focuses on a broad and significant period: 1609-1783, including the years of Dutch, Swedish, and English colonization and the American Revolution. An epilogue takes the Delawares' story into the mid-nineteenth century. Amy C. Schutt examines important themes in Native American history—mediation and alliance formation—and shows their crucial role in the development of the Delawares as a people. She goes beyond familiar questions about Indian-European relations and examines how Indian-Indian associations were a major factor in the history of the Delawares. Drawing extensively upon primary sources, including treaty minutes, deeds, and Moravian mission records, Schutt reveals that Delawares approached alliances as a tool for survival at a time when Euro-Americans were encroaching on Native lands. As relations with colonists were frequently troubled, Delawares often turned instead to form alliances with other Delawares and non-Delaware Indians with whom they shared territories and resources. In vivid detail, *Peoples of the River Valleys* shows the link between the Delawares' approaches to land and the relationships they constructed on the land.

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