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Titolo	The virtues of our vices [[electronic resource] ] : a modest defense of gossip, rudeness, and other bad habits // Emrys Westacott
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Note generali	"A Princeton University Press e-book."--Cover.
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Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Introduction -- 1. The Rights and Wrongs of Rudeness -- 2. The Ethics of Gossiping -- 3. On Snobbery: Is It Sinful to Feel Superior? -- 4. "That's not funny-that's sick!" -- 5. Why Should I Respect Your Stupid Opinion? -- Acknowledgments -- Notes -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Are there times when it's right to be rude? Can we distinguish between good and bad gossip? Am I a snob if I think that NPR listeners are likely to be better informed than devotees of Fox News? Does sick humor do anyone any good? Can I think your beliefs are absurd but still respect you? In <i>The Virtues of Our Vices</i> , philosopher Emrys Westacott takes a fresh look at important everyday ethical questions--and comes up with surprising answers. He makes a compelling argument that some of our most common vices--rudeness, gossip, snobbery, tasteless humor, and disrespect for others' beliefs--often have hidden virtues or serve unappreciated but valuable purposes. For instance, there are times when rudeness may be necessary to help someone with a problem or to convey an important message. Gossip can foster intimacy between friends and curb abuses of power. And dubious humor can alleviate existential anxieties. Engaging, funny, and philosophically sophisticated, <i>The Virtues of Our Vices</i> challenges us to rethink

conventional wisdom when it comes to everyday moral behavior.

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