

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910789712503321
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Titolo	William Howard Taft : the travails of a progressive conservative // Jonathan Lurie [[electronic resource]]
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge : , : Cambridge University Press, , 2012
ISBN	1-139-19946-3 1-107-22416-0 1-280-48432-2 9786613579300 1-139-20527-7 1-139-20308-8 1-139-20607-9 1-139-20167-0 1-139-20449-1 1-139-01498-6
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xv, 214 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)
Disciplina	973.91/2092
Soggetti	Presidents - United States United States Politics and government 1909-1913 United States Politics and government 1865-1933
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015).
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	The early years, 1857-1887 -- Judges and justice, 1887-1900 -- Roosevelt and Taft in the Philippines, 1900-1904 -- The unwilling heir, 1904-1908 -- President Taft : tensions and travail, 1909-1910 -- Jockeying on the court, 1910-1911 -- At the brink, 1911 -- The split, 1912 -- Relief and renewal, 1913-1921.
Sommario/riassunto	In this biographical study of the only American ever to have been both President and Chief Justice of the United States, Jonathan Lurie reassesses William Howard Taft's multiple careers, which culminated in Taft's election to the presidency in 1908 as the chosen successor to Theodore Roosevelt. By 1912, however, the relationship between Taft and Roosevelt had ruptured. Lurie re-examines the Taft-Roosevelt

friendship and concludes that it rested on flimsy ground. He also places Taft in a progressive context, taking Taft's own self-description as 'a believer in progressive conservatism' as the starting point. At the end of his biography, Lurie concludes that this label is accurate when applied to Taft.
