Record Nr. UNINA9910789809203321 Autore Aubry Timothy Richard <1975-> **Titolo** Reading as therapy [[electronic resource]]: what contemporary fiction does for middle-class Americans / / Timothy Aubry Iowa City,: University of Iowa Press, c2011 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-58729-956-9 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (269 p.) Disciplina 306.4/88 Soggetti Fiction - History and criticism - Theory, etc Reading - Psychological aspects **Bibliotherapy** Literature and society - United States Books and reading - United States 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 Searching for paradise on the Oprah Winfrey Show -- Therapy and displacement in divine secrets of the Ya-Ya sisterhood -- Infinite jest and the recovery of feeling -- The pain of reading A million little pieces -- The politics of interiority in The pilot's wife -- Reading The kite runner in America. Sommario/riassunto Why do Americans read contemporary fiction? This question seems simple, but is it? Do Americans read for the purpose of aesthetic appreciation? To satisfy their own insatiable intellectual curiosities? While other forms of media have come to monopolize consumers' leisure time, in the past two decades book clubs have proliferated, Amazon has sponsored thriving online discussions, Oprah Winfrey has inspired millions of viewers to read both contemporary works and classics, and novels have retained their devoted following within

middlebrow communities.