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Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction : the parodic impulse in the (not-so) fabulous Fifties -- The new, sick sense: the mediation of America's health and humor at mid-century -- What, me subversive? MAD Magazine and the textual strategies and cultural politics of parody -- The parodic sensibility and the sophisticated gaze : nasculinity and taste in Playboy's Penthouse -- Ernie Kovacs and the logics of television parody and electronic trickery -- Black tie, straightjacket : Oscar Levant's sick life on TV -- Conclusion : television for people who hate television?
Sommario/riassunto	In this original study, Thompson explores the complicated relationships between Americans and television during the 1950s, as seen and effected through popular humor. Parody and Taste in Postwar American Television Culture documents how Americans grew accustomed to understanding politics, current events, and popular culture through comedy that is simultaneously critical, commercial, and funny. Along with the rapid growth of television in the 1950s, an explosion of satire and parody took place across a wide field of American culture-in

magazines, comic books, film, comedy albums, an

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