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| Soggetti                | Classification, Library of Congress - Evaluation<br>Subject headings, Library of Congress - Evaluation<br>Subject cataloging - Social aspects - United States<br>Cataloging - Government policy - United States<br>Subject headings - Sexual minorities<br>Classification - Books - Minorities  |
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| Note generali           | Revision of author's thesis (Ph. D.)--University of Wisconsin--Madison, 2012 titled For sexual perversion see paraphilias : disciplining sexual deviance at the Library of Congress.  |
| Nota di bibliografia    | Includes bibliographical references and indexes.  |
| Nota di contenuto       | Front matter -- Contents -- Preface -- Introduction: A Book Is Being Cataloged -- Chapter 1. Naming Subjects: "Paraphilias" -- Chapter 2. Labeling Obscenity: The Delta Collection -- Chapter 3. Mapping Perversion: HQ71, etc. -- Chapter 4. Aberrations in the Catalog -- Chapter 5. The Trouble with Access / Toward Reparative Taxonomies -- Epilogue: Sadomasochism in the Library -- Acknowledgments -- Notes -- General Index -- Index to Library of Congress Subject Headings -- Index to Library of Congress Classifications |
| Sommario/riassunto      | Cruising the Library offers a highly innovative analysis of the history of sexuality and categories of sexual perversion through a critical examination of the Library of Congress and its cataloging practices. Taking the publication of Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick's Epistemologies of the Closet as emblematic of the Library's inability to account for sexual difference, Melissa Adler embarks upon a detailed critique of how cataloging systems have delimited and proscribed expressions of                                      |

gender, sexuality, ethnicity, and race in a manner that mirrors psychiatric and sociological attempts to pathologize non-normative sexual practices and civil subjects. Taking up a parallel analysis, Adler utilizes Roderick A. Ferguson's *Aberrations in Black* as another example of how the Library of Congress fails to account for, and thereby "buries," difference. She examines the physical space of the Library as one that encourages forms of governmentality as theorized by Michel Foucault while also allowing for its utopian possibilities. Finally, she offers a brief but highly illuminating history of the Delta Collection. Likely established before the turn of the twentieth century and active until its gradual dissolution in the 1960s, the Delta Collection was a secret archive within the Library of Congress that housed materials confiscated by the United States Post Office and other federal agencies. These were materials deemed too obscene for public dissemination or general access. Adler reveals how the Delta Collection was used to regulate difference and squelch dissent in the McCarthy era while also linking it to evolving understandings of so-called perversion in the scientific study of sexual difference. Sophisticated, engrossing, and highly readable, *Cruising the Library* provides us with a critical understanding of library science, an alternative view of discourses around the history of sexuality, and an analysis of the relationship between governmentality and the cataloging of research and information—as well as categories of difference—in American culture.

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