

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910793058803321
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Titolo	Imperial Affects : Sensational Melodrama and the Attractions of American Cinema / / Jonna Eagle
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New Brunswick, NJ : , : Rutgers University Press, , [2017] ©2017
ISBN	0-8135-8304-7 0-8135-8305-5
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (276 pages) : illustrations
Collana	War Culture
Disciplina	791.436582
Soggetti	Action and adventure films - United States - History and criticism
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Introduction. Making Sense: The Moral and Affective Appeals of Melodrama -- 1. A Rough Ride: Cinema, War, and the Strenuous Life -- 2. Manifest Destiny in Action: Sensational Melodrama and the Advent of the Western -- 3. Western Weepies: The Power of Pathos in the Cold War Western -- 4. The Subject of Imperiled Privilege: Victimization and Violence in Late-Century Action Cinema -- Epilogue. To Be Real: Virtual Violence in the Twenty-First Century -- Acknowledgments -- Notes -- Selected Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Imperial Affects is the first sustained account of American action-based cinema as melodrama. From the earliest war films through the Hollywood Western and the late-century action cinema, imperialist violence and mobility have been produced as sites of both visceral pleasure and moral virtue. Suffering and omnipotence operate as twinned affects in this context, inviting identification with an American national subject constituted as both victimized and invincible—a powerful and persistent conjunction traced here across a century of cinema.