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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction: Ambiguous habits and the paradox of Asian American racial formation

-- Trying on the yellow jacket at the limits of our town : the routines of race and nation -- Everyday rituals and the performance of community -- Making change : interracial conflict, cross-racial performance -- Homework becomes you : the model minority and its doubles -- Afterword: The everyday Asian American online.

Sommario/riassunto

Winner, Lois P. Rudnick Book Prize presented by the New England American Studies Association Across the twentieth century, national controversies involving Asian Americans have drawn attention to such seemingly unremarkable activities as eating rice, greeting customers, and studying for exams. While public debates about Asian Americans have invoked "indian practices to support inconsistent claims about racial difference, diverse aesthetic projects have tested these claims by experimenting with the relationships among habit, body, and identity. In *The Racial Mundane*, Ju Yon Kim argues that the ambiguous relationship between behavioral tendencies and the body has sustained paradoxical characterizations of Asian Americans as ideal and impossible Americans. The body's uncertain attachment to its routine motions promises alternately to materialize racial distinctions and to dissolve them. Kim's study focuses on works of theater, fiction, and film that explore the interface between racialized bodies and everyday enactments to reveal new and latent affiliations. The various modes of performance developed in these works not only encourage audiences to see habitual behaviors differently, but also reveal the stakes of noticing such behaviors at all. Integrating studies of race, performance, and the everyday, *The Racial Mundane* invites readers to reflect on how and to what effect perfunctory behaviors become objects of public scrutiny.
