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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	1. Introduction Section A: Wallace and his World -- 2. "I'm a man of my --" Sketching the Incomplete -- 3. "It's just the texture of the world I live in": The Writer and the World Section B: The Foundational Ideas -- 4. The Book, the Broom and the Ladder: Grounding Philosophy -- 5. "An act of communication between one human being and another": Writing and the Process of Communication -- 6. Narcissism, Alienation and Commun(al)ity Section C: Fail Again: Failure as Structure and Theme -- 7. Vocal Instability and Narrative Structure -- 8. "Personally I'm neutral on the menstruation point": Gender, Difference and the Body -- 9. Freedom, Failure and the Heroic Citizen -- 10. Conclusion -- Bibliography -- Index.
Sommario/riassunto	"This book examines the writing of David Foster Wallace, hailed as the voice of a generation on his death. Critics have identified horror of solipsism, obsession with sincerity and a corresponding ambivalence regarding postmodern irony, and detailed attention to contemporary culture as the central elements of Wallace's writing. Clare Hayes-Brady draws on the evolving discourses of Wallace studies, focusing on the unifying anti-teleology of his writing, arguing that that position is a fundamentally political response to the condition of neo-liberal America. She argues that Wallace's work is most unified by its resistance to closure, which pervades the structural, narrative and stylistic elements of his writing. Taking a broadly thematic approach to the numerous types of 'failure', or lack of completion, visible

throughout his work, the book offers a framework within which to read Wallace's work as a coherent whole, rather than split along the lines of fiction versus non-fiction, or pre- and post-Infinite Jest, two critical positions that have become dominant over the last five years. While demonstrating the centrality of 'failure', the book also explores Wallace's approach to sincere communication as a recurring response to what he saw as the inane, self-absorbed commodification of language and society, along with less explored themes such as gender, naming and heroism. Situating Wallace as both a product of his time and an artist *sui generis*, Hayes-Brady details his abiding interest in philosophy, language and the struggle for an authentic self in late-twentieth-century America."--Bloomsbury Publishing.
