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Autore	Faith Karlene
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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Setting the stage -- Who is this Madonna? -- Grist for feminist thinking -- The scholar and the showgirl -- Identity : sex, religion, and difference -- Liberated sex crusader? -- A careening career -- Role model? -- Only Madonna knows -- Postscript -- Appendix: Selected works of Madonna / by Frances Wasserlein
Sommario/riassunto	How do bad girls get away with it? How did Madonna, subject of public outcry for her controversial performances and her book <i>Sex</i> , become a superstar of pop culture and a role model for teenage girls? Why now, as star of <i>Evita</i> and a new mother, is she becoming a mainstream hero? Karlene Faith says that Madonna signifies the times we live in. We are, in a sense, all responsible for who Madonna is. As fans, moral critics, media journalists, or university scholars, we mediate what she means to our society. And Madonna, as a shrewd career woman, has known how

to exploit our attentions with her multiple talents. Her representation of sexual practices and values has not taken place in a political or social vacuum. She has counted on our readiness to witness the smashing of cultural taboos. Feminist reactions to Madonna have been divided. In her early career Madonna was a teenage role model, applauded as a liberated sex crusader. Later, she raised eyebrows by portraying cynical sex with multiple partners across identity boundaries and by capitalizing on sadomasochistic imagery. *Madonna, Bawdy & Soul* is a celebration and critical analysis of Madonna from a feminist perspective. It will, like Madonna, provoke controversy among fans, critics, and scholars. The book includes a comprehensive listing of songs, videos, tours, films, stage roles, and Internet sites.

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