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Nota di contenuto	Introduction: life is more important than art or social engineering, eutopia, and evolution -- How I stopped worrying and loved behavioural engineering, or communal life, adaptations, and B.F. Skinner's Walden two -- You're not in Canada until you can hear the loons crying, or voting, people's power, and Ken Kesey's One flew over the cuckoo's nest -- You'll never make a monkey out of me, or altruism, proverbial wisdom, and Bernard Malamud's God's grace -- We better kill the instinct to kill before it kills us, or violence, mind control, and Walker Percy's The Thanatos syndrome -- It can't happen here, or

politics, emotions, and Philip Roth's *The plot against America*.

Sommario/riassunto

The United States today is afflicted with political alienation, militarized violence, institutionalized poverty, and social agony. Worst of all, perhaps, it is afflicted with chronic and acute ahistoricism. America insist on ignoring the context of its present dilemmas. It insists on forgetting what preceded the headlines of today and on denying continuity with history. It insists, in short, on its exceptionalism. *American Utopia and Social Engineering* sets out to correct this amnesia. It misses no opportunity to flesh out both the historical premises and the politic
