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Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction -- Thoroughly modern Millay and her middlebrow masquerades -- "This unfortunate exterior": Dorothy Parker, the female body, and strategic doubling -- "First aid to laughter": Jessie Fauset and the racial politics of smartness -- The indestructible glamour girl: Dawn Powell, celebrity, and counterpublics -- "Scratch a socialist and you find a snob": Mary McCarthy, irony, and politics -- Conclusion.
Sommario/riassunto	Edna St. Vincent Millay, Dorothy Parker, Anita Loos, Lois Long, Jessie Fauset, Dawn Powell, Mary McCarthy, and others imagined New York as a place where they could claim professional status, define urban independence, and shrug off confining feminine roles. Their fiction raised questions about what it meant to be a woman in the public eye, how gender roles would change because men and women were working together, and how the growth of the magazine industry would affect women's relationships to their bodies and minds. Playing Smart celebrates their causes and careers and pays hom