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Sommario/riassunto	Through a fascinating discussion of religion's role in the rhetoric of American civilizing empire, this book undertakes an exploration of how Catholic mission histories served as a useful reference for Americans narrating U.S. settler colonialism on the North American continent and seeking to extend military, political, and cultural power around the world. The text traces historical celebrations of Catholic missionary histories in the upper Midwest, Southern California, and the U.S. colonial Philippines to demonstrate the improbable centrality of the Catholic missions to ostensibly Protestant imperial endeavors.

