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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction: message of the trees: recognizing ecological burden and beauty -- "Toil and soil": authorizing work and enslavement -- York, Harriet, and George: writing ecological ancestors -- Animal nature: finding ecotheology -- Bones and water: telling on myth -- "I got the blues" epistemology: thinking a way out of eco-crisis -- Conclusion. After levee disaster: learning from a sinned-against city.
Sommario/riassunto	Ruffin expands the reach of ecocriticism by analyzing the ecological experiences, conceptions, and desires seen in African American writing. Ruffin examines African American ecological insights from the antebellum era to the twenty-first century, considering WPA slave narratives, neo-slave poetry, novels, essays, and documentary films.