Record Nr. UNINA9910814066103321 Autore Barnes Elizabeth <1959-> Titolo Love's whipping boy: violence & sentimentality in the American imagination / / Elizabeth Barnes Chapel Hill [N.C.], : University of North Carolina Press, 2011 Pubbl/distr/stampa 979-88-9313-429-2 **ISBN** 1-4696-0334-9 0-8078-7796-4 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (222 p.) Disciplina 813/.309353 813.3093552 Soggetti American fiction - 19th century - History and criticism Violence in literature Empathy in literature Sentimentalism in literature National characteristics, American, in literature Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Introduction -- Wieland, familicide, and the suffering father --Nota di contenuto Melville's fraternal melancholies -- Fathers of violence: Frederick Douglass, John Brown, and the radical reproduction of sensibility --The death of boyhood and the making of Little women. Working to reconcile the Christian dictum to ""love one's neighbor as Sommario/riassunto oneself"" with evidence of U.S. sociopolitical aggression, including slavery, corporal punishment of children, and Indian removal, Elizabeth Barnes focuses her attention on aggressors--rather than the weak or abused--to suggest ways of understanding paradoxical relationships between empathy, violence, and religion that took hold so strongly in nineteenth-century American culture.Looking at works by Herman Melville, Frederick Douglass, Nathaniel Hawthorne, and Louisa May

Alcott, among others, Barnes shows how violence