

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910814108303321
Autore	Loebel Thomas <1965->
Titolo	The letter and the spirit of nineteenth-century American literature : justice, politics, and theology // Thomas Loebel
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Montreal, : McGill-Queen's University Press, c2005
ISBN	1-282-86299-5 9786612862991 0-7735-7231-7
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (303 p.)
Disciplina	810.9/3554
Soggetti	American literature - 19th century - History and criticism Law and literature - United States - History - 19th century Justice in literature Theology in literature Politics and literature - United States - History - 19th century Discourse analysis, Narrative
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Includes index.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [271]-287) and index.
Nota di contenuto	The justice of sentencing, or how (not) to speak -- "A" confession : how to avoid speaking the name of the father -- Constituting justice : Unionist-Republican and Confederate-Democratic narratives -- The feminine, the Judaic, the Pauline, and the political : Uncle Tom's Cabin and the ethical critique of justice -- Exodus politics and the redemption of difference -- Rendering justice in The Grandissimes : advocacy and others' voices -- Conclusion : Confederate democracy and the non-in-different Constitution.
Sommario/riassunto	Moving back to the trial of Anne Hutchinson in Puritan Massachusetts and the captivity narrative of Mary Rowlandson in order to analyse theo-political signification, Loebel provides a new context for examining the politically performative function of language in such texts as "The Scarlet Letter," "Uncle Tom's Cabin," and "Waiting for the Verdict." He also argues, however, that a specific theo-logic manifests itself in the political rhetoric of the nation, such that the afterlife of the "New Jerusalem" resonates not just in the "Blessings of Liberty"

enshrined in the Constitution but also in the shift from a religious understanding of union with Jesus to that of the Union of States as a nation. Loebel compares unionist and confederate discourse, opening up new ways of theorising representation as a political, theological, legal, and literary issue that has continued currency both in twentieth-century literature and in the political discourse of America's global vision, such as the "axis of evil" and the "new world order." Anyone interested in American literature and culture will view the relationship between ethics and justice differently after reading this book.
