1. Record Nr. UNINA9910814159803321 Autore Fraser Steve Titolo Class Matters: The Strange Career of an American Delusion / / Steve Fraser Pubbl/distr/stampa New Haven, CT:,: Yale University Press,, [2018] ©2018 **ISBN** 0-300-23530-5 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (300 pages): illustrations Disciplina 973.91 Soggetti Social classes - United States - History Social conflict - United States - History Social psychology - United States - History Nonfiction History United States Social conditions United States Politics and government 1945-1953 United States Politics and government 1945-1989 **United States** Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Includes index. Nota di contenuto Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction. The Enigma of Class in America -- 1. East of Eden -- 2. We the People in the City of Brotherly Love -- 3. Wretched Refuse -- 4. There Was a Young Cowboy Homeless on the Range -- 5. John Smith Visits Suburbia -- 6. Free at Last? "I Have a Dream" and Involuntary Servitude --Conclusion. The Homeland -- Notes -- Index Sommario/riassunto A uniquely personal yet deeply informed exploration of the hidden history of class in American life From the decks of the Mayflower straight through to Donald Trump's "American carnage," class has always played a role in American life. In this remarkable work, Steve Fraser twines our nation's past with his own family's history, deftly

illustrating how class matters precisely because Americans work so hard to pretend it doesn't. He examines six signposts of American

history-the settlements at Plymouth and Jamestown; the ratification of the Constitution; the Statue of Liberty; the cowboy; the "kitchen debate" between Richard Nixon and Nikita Khrushchev; and Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech-to explore just how pervasively class has shaped our national conversation. With a historian's intellectual command and a riveting narrative voice, Fraser interweaves these examples with his own past-including his false arrest on charges of planning to blow up the Liberty Bell during the Civil Rights era-to tell a story both urgent and timeless.