

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910815223203321
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Titolo	American epic : reading the U.S. Constitution // Garrett Epps
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Oxford, : Oxford University Press, 2013
ISBN	0-19-997476-4 0-19-997475-6
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (301 p.)
Classificazione	LAW018000
Disciplina	342.7302
Soggetti	Constitutional law - United States Constitutions - United States
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di contenuto	Cover; Contents; Preface: How to Read a Constitution; Acknowledgments; Preamble: "Tell me, Muse, how it all began"; Article I: A Tale of Two Cities; Article II: Under the Bramble Bush; Article III: Solomon's Sword; Article IV: All God's Children; Article V: Alter or Abolish; Article VI: The Supreme Law of the Land; Article VII: Bloodless and Successful; Last Things; The Bill of Rights: National Decalogue; Quick Fixes: Eleventh and Twelfth Amendments; Democratic Vistas: Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Amendments A Burst of Reform: Sixteenth, Seventeenth, Eighteenth, and Nineteenth Amendments Hangover Remedies: Twentieth through Twenty-Second Amendments; Dreams and Nightmares: The Twenty-Third through Twenty-Sixth Amendments; Madison's Return: The Twenty-Seventh Amendment; Appendix: The United States Constitution; Notes; Index; A; B; C; D; E; F; G; H; I; J; K; L; M; N; O; P; Q; R; S; T; U; V; W; Y
Sommario/riassunto	In 1987, E.L. Doctorow celebrated the Constitution's bicentennial by reading it. "It is five thousand words long but reads like fifty thousand," he said. Distinguished legal scholar Garrett Epps--himself an award-winning novelist--disagrees. It's about 7,500 words. And Doctorow "missed a good deal of high rhetoric, many literary tropes, and even a trace of, if not wit, at least irony," he writes. Americans may venerate the Constitution, "but all too seldom is it read." In American Epic, Epps takes us through a complete reading of the Constitution--

even the "boring" parts--to achieve an

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