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Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Abbreviations -- Introduction -- PART ONE THE UNKILLABLE DREAM -- 1. Birth, Heyday, and Seeming Decline -- 2. Reborn from the Critical Ashes -- PART TWO. SCRIPT ONE: MADE CLASSIC BY RETELLING -- 3. The Reluctant Master Text -- PART THREE. SCRIPT TWO: ASPIRATION IN AMERICA -- Introduction -- 4. "Success" Stories from Franklin to the Dawn of Modernism -- 5. Belated Ascendancy: Fitzgerald to Faulkner, Dreiser to Wright and Bellow -- 6. Up- From Narrative in Hyphenated America: Ellison, Roth, and Beyond -- PART FOUR. SCRIPT THREE: ROMANCING THE DIVIDES -- Introduction -- 7. Uncle Tom's Cabin and Its Aftermaths -- 8. The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn and Its Others -- 9. Faulkner's Absalom, Absalom!, Mitchell's Gone with the Wind, and Literary Interracialism North and South -- 10. Morrison's Beloved as Culmination and Augury -- PART FIVE. SCRIPT FOUR: IMPROBABLE COMMUNITIES -- Introduction -- 11. Moby- Dick: From Oblivion to Great American Novel -- 12. The Great American Novel of Twentieth-Century Breakdown: Dos Passos's U.S.A.- or Steinbeck's Grapes of

Wrath? -- 13. Late Twentieth- Century Maximalism: Pynchon's Gravity's
Rainbow- and Its Rainbow -- Epilogue -- Notes -- Acknowledgments
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Sommario/riassunto

The first book in many years to take in the full sweep of national fiction, *The Dream of the Great American Novel* explains why this supposedly antiquated idea continues to thrive. It shows that four G.A. N. "scripts" are keys to the dynamics of American literature and identity--and to the myth of a nation perpetually under construction.
