

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910819200303321
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Titolo	Dirt and desire : reconstructing southern women's writing, 1930-1990 // Patricia Yaeger
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Chicago, : University of Chicago Press, 2000
ISBN	1-282-07029-0 9786612070297 0-226-94492-1
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (344 p.)
Disciplina	810.99287
Soggetti	American fiction - Southern States - History and criticism Women and literature - Southern States - History - 20th century American fiction - Women authors - History and criticism American fiction - 20th century - History and criticism Race in literature Southern States 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.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Prologue -- Chapter One Southern Women Writers: A Confederacy of Water Moccasins -- Chapter Two. Dynamiting the Rails: Desegregating Southern Literary Studies -- Chapter Three. "And Every Baby ... Was Floating Round in the Water, Drowned": Throwaway Bodies in Southern Fiction -- Chapter Four. Race and the Cloud of Unknowing -- Chapter Five. Beyond the Hummingbird: Southern Gargantuas -- Chapter Six. Politics in the Kitchen: Roosevelt, McCullers, and Surrealist History -- Chapter Seven. White Objects, Black Ownership: Object Politics in Southern Fiction -- Chapter Eight. The Body as Testimony -- Chapter Nine. Studying the Waffle house Chain, or Dirt as Desire in Their Eyes Were Watching God -- Notes -- References -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	The story of southern writing-the Dixie Limited, if you will-runs along an iron path: an official narrative of a literature about community, about place and the past, about miscegenation, white patriarchy, and the epic of race. Patricia Yaeger dynamites the rails, providing an

entirely new set of categories through which to understand southern literature and culture. For Yaeger, works by black and white southern women writers reveal a shared obsession with monstrosity and the grotesque and with the strange zones of contact between black and white, such as the daily trauma of underpaid labor and the workings of racial and gender politics in the unnoticed yet all too familiar everyday. Yaeger also excavates a southern fascination with dirt—who owns it, who cleans it, and whose bodies are buried in it. Yaeger's brilliant, theoretically informed readings of Zora Neale Hurston, Harper Lee, Carson McCullers, Toni Morrison, Flannery O'Connor, Alice Walker, and Eudora Welty (among many others) explode the mystifications of southern literary tradition and forge a new path for southern studies. The book won the Barbara Perkins and George Perkins Award given by the Society for the Study of Narrative Literature.
