1. Record Nr. UNINA9910819908603321 Autore Hilliard Christopher **Titolo** To exercise our talents: the democratization of writing in Britain / / Christopher Hilliard Cambridge, Mass., : Harvard University Press, c2006 Pubbl/distr/stampa 0-674-03865-7 **ISBN** Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica g 068 Collana Harvard historical studies;; v. 150 Classificazione HM 1020 Disciplina 820.9/0091 Soggetti English literature - 20th century - History and criticism Literature and society - Great Britain - History - 20th century Authorship - Social aspects - Great Britain - History - 20th century Democratization - Great Britain - History - 20th century Social classes - Great Britain - History - 20th century Working class - Great Britain - History - 20th century Working class writings, English - History and criticism Middle class - Great Britain - History - 20th century Working class in literature Middle class in literature Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references (p. [297]-363) and index. Nota di contenuto Frontmatter -- Contents -- Introduction: Literary History from Below --Chapter 1. Middlemen, Markets, and Literary Advice -- Chapter 2. A Chance to Exercise Our Talents -- Chapter 3. Fiction and the Writing Public -- Chapter 4. In My Own Language about My Own People --Chapter 5. Class, Patronage, and Literary Tradition -- Chapter 6. People's Writing and the People's War -- Chapter 7. The Logic of Our Times -- Chapter 8. Popular Writing after the War -- Conclusion: On or about the End of the Chatterley Ban -- Abbreviations -- Notes --Manuscripts and Archives Consulted -- Acknowledgments -- Index Sommario/riassunto In twentieth-century Britain the literary landscape underwent a fundamental change. Aspiring authors--traditionally drawn from

privileged social backgrounds--now included factory workers writing amid chaotic home lives and married women joining writers' clubs in

search of creative outlets. In this brilliantly conceived book, Christopher Hilliard reveals the extraordinary history of "ordinary" voices. In capturing the creative lives of ordinary people--would-be fiction-writers and poets who until now have left scarcely a mark on written history--Hilliard sensitively reconstructs the literary culture of a democratic age.