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Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction: The Constitution and American Literature -- I: The Constitution as a Secular Revelation -- 1. At the Beginning -- 2. The Path to Union -- 3. The People, Having Spoken, Speak -- 4. Almost a Miracle -- 5. The Paradox of Secular Revelation -- II: An American Literary Renaissance -- 6. Declarations of American Literary Independence -- 7. Preserving the Revelation -- 8. Preserving the Paradox -- 9. The Literary Renaissance of Secular Revelation -- 10. Essays in Time -- 11. A Poetic Form for Straying -- 12. Clinging to Narrative -- 13. Confidence and the Darkness of Revelation -- Conclusion: The Literary Art of Uniting States -- Notes -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	The United States Constitution is a quintessentially political document. Yet, until now, no one has seriously considered the formative influence of this document on American cultural life. In this ambitious book, Mitchell Meltzer demonstrates the extent to which the Constitution is both source and inspiration for America's greatest literary masterworks.

