

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910821821403321
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Titolo	"Bitter with the past but sweet with the dream" : communism in the African American imaginary representations of the Communist Party, 1940-1952 // by Cathy Bergin
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Leiden, The Netherlands : , : Koninklijke Brill, , 2015 ©2015
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (x, 222 pages)
Collana	Historical Materialism Book Series, , 1570-1522 ; ; Volume 95
Disciplina	813/.509896073
Soggetti	American fiction - African American authors - History and criticism American fiction - 20th century - History and criticism Communism and literature - United States - History - 20th century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Preliminary Material -- Introduction -- 1 'Towards Soviet America' -- 2 The Liberator (1929–1935) -- 3 Native Son: Ghetto Nightmares -- 4 'Communism is the Twentieth Century Americanism' -- 5 Lonely Crusade: Union Dues -- 6 Invisible Man: Un-American Activities -- Conclusion -- Bibliography -- Index.
Sommario/riassunto	The legacy of the relationship between African American writers and Communism in the US is a contested one. Bergin argues that in three novels, by seminal mid-century authors (Wright, Himes and Ellison) Communism is not dismissed as incapable of meeting the demands of black political identity but is castigated for its refusal to do so. A detailed focus on the political milieu in which these texts operate challenges many of the presumptions about the 'inability' of Communism to comprehend racial oppression, which dominate literary critical approaches to these novels. She draws on the complex formations black political agency presumed and reproduced by American Communism during the Depression.