

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910823403503321
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Titolo	The border and the line : race, literature, and Los Angeles / / Dean J. Franco
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Stanford, California : , : Stanford University Press, , [2019] ©2019
ISBN	1-5036-0778-X
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xi, 208 pages) : illustrations
Collana	Stanford studies in comparative race and ethnicity
Disciplina	810.9920693
Soggetti	American literature - Minority authors - History and criticism Ethnic neighborhoods in literature Ethnicity in literature Race relations in literature Race in literature Los Angeles (Calif.) In literature
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction : the borders and lines of social identities -- Redlining and realigning in East L.A. : the neighborhoods of Helena Maria Viramontes and Union de Vecinos -- The matter of the neighbor and the property of 'unmitigated blackness' -- 'My neighborhood' : private claims, public space, and Jewish Los Angeles -- Conclusion : love, space, and the grounds of comparative ethnic literature study.
Sommario/riassunto	Los Angeles is a city of borders and lines, from the freeways that transect its neighborhoods to streets like Pico Boulevard that slash across the city from the ocean to the heart of downtown, creating both ethnic enclaves and pathways for interracial connection. Examining neighborhoods in east, south central, and west L.A. - and their imaginative representation by Chicana, African American, and Jewish American writers - this book investigates the moral and political implications of negotiating space. The Border and the Line takes up the central conceit of "the neighbor" to consider how the geography of racial identification and interracial encounters are represented and even made possible by literary language. Dean J. Franco probes how race is

formed and transformed in literature and in everyday life, in the works of Helena Maria Viramontes, Paul Beatty, James Baldwin, and the writers of the Watts Writers Workshop. Exploring metaphor and metonymy, as well as economic and political circumstance, Franco identifies the potential for reconciliation in the figure of the neighbor, an identity that is grounded by geographical boundaries and which invites their crossing.
