Record Nr. UNINA9910823785903321 Autore Mitchell Verner D. <1957-> Titolo Literary sisters: Dorothy West and her circle: a biography of the Harlem Renaissance / / Verner D. Mitchell and Cynthia Davis New Brunswick, N.J., : Rutgers University Press, c2012 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-283-86440-1 0-8135-5213-3 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (216 p.) DavisCynthia <1946-> Altri autori (Persone) Disciplina 813/.5209896073 Soggetti American literature - African American authors - History and criticism American literature - Women authors - History and criticism African American women - Intellectual life African American women in literature African American arts - New York (State) - New York Harlem Renaissance Harlem (New York, N.Y.) Intellectual life 20th century 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 and index. Nota di contenuto Prologue -- "Nothing so broadening as travel": Porgy, 1929 -- The Benson Family comes to Boston -- Pauline Hopkins and African American literature in New England -- Boston girlhoods, 1910-1925 --The youngest members of the Harlem Renaissance, 1926-1931 --Russian interlude, literary salons, and challenge -- Epilogue. Sommario/riassunto Harlem Renaissance writer Dorothy West led a charmed life in many respects. Born into a distinguished Boston family, she appeared in Gershwin's Porgy and Bess, then lived in the Soviet Union with a group that included Langston Hughes, to whom she proposed marriage. She later became friends with Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, who encouraged her to finish her second novel. The Wedding, which became the

octogenarian author's first bestseller. Literary Sisters reveals a different

side of West's personal and professional lives—her struggles for recognition outside of the traditional literary establishment, and her collaborations with talented African American women writers, artists, and performers who faced these same problems. West and her "literary sisters"—women like Zora Neale Hurston and West's cousin, poet Helene Johnson—created an emotional support network that also aided in promoting, publishing, and performing their respective works. Integrating rare photos, letters, and archival materials from West's life, Literary Sisters is not only a groundbreaking biography of an increasingly important author but also a vivid portrait of a pivotal moment for African American women in the arts.