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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (pages 353-363) and index.
Nota di contenuto	"A typically English brew" : Victorian histories of tea and representations of English national identity -- Mediating class distinctions : the middle-class Englishness of drinking tea -- "Tea first hand" : gender and middle-class domesticity at the tea table -- Class, connection, and communitas : Wuthering Heights, North and South, and Alice's adventures in wonderland -- Gender, sexuality, and the tea table : David Copperfield, Middlemarch, and Orley Farm -- Tea drinking, nostalgia, and domestic entrapment : Hester, The portrait of a lady, and Jude the obscure.
Sommario/riassunto	Tea drinking in Victorian England was a pervasive activity that, when seen through the lens of a century's perspective, presents a unique overview of Victorian culture. Tea was a necessity and a luxury; it was seen as masculine as well as feminine; it symbolized the exotic and the domestic; and it represented both moderation and excess. Tea was flexible enough to accommodate and to mark subtle differences in social status, to mediate these differences between individuals, and to serve as a shared cultural symbol within England. In A Necessary Luxury: Tea in Victorian England, Julie E. Fromer

