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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [279]-301) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Preliminary Material -- Introduction -- Women, Politics and Fiction in 1930's France -- Gender and Genre: The Political Novel -- Fictional Representations of Female Commitment -- Politics and Female Sexuality -- Politics and the Maternal Body -- Conclusion -- Bibliography -- Index.
Sommario/riassunto	This study is the first to examine the contribution made by women writers to politically committed literature in 1930's France. Its purpose is to bring to light the work of female authors of left-wing fiction whose novels are comparable to those of well-known male practitioners of <i>littérature engagée</i> , such as Paul Nizan and Louis Aragon. It analyses the work of Madeleine Pelletier, Simone Téry, Edith Thomas, Henriette Valet and Louise Weiss in the context of the inter-war models of committed literature in relation to which they were produced. Consideration of this body of fictional texts, not previously brought together by literary historians, shows how women were able to relate to fiction and to politics in inter-war France. Situating the novels within their social, historical, literary and political environment, the

book contributes to the literary and cultural history of twentieth century France. The analysis of inter-war political writing by women calls into question the criteria against which women's writing has been evaluated by feminist scholarship.
