Record Nr. UNINA9910825888803321 Autore Tompkins Kyla Wazana Titolo Racial Indigestion: Eating Bodies in the 19th Century / / Kyla Wazana **Tompkins** Pubbl/distr/stampa New York, NY:,: New York University Press,, [2012] ©2012 **ISBN** 0-8147-3837-0 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (323 p.) Collana America and the Long 19th Century;; 5 Disciplina 394.1/20973 Soggetti Food in literature Human body - Social aspects - United States - History - 19th century Cooking - Social aspects - United States - History - 19th century Diet - Social aspects - United States - History - 19th century Food habits - Social aspects - United States - History - 19th century United States Race relations History 19th century Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Front matter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction -- 1 Kitchen Insurrections -- 2 "She Made the Table a Snare to Them" -- 3 "Everything 'Cept Eat Us" -- 4 A Wholesome Girl -- 5 "What's De Use Talking 'Bout Dem 'Mendments?" -- Conclusion -- Notes --Bibliography -- Index -- About the Author Sommario/riassunto The act of eating is both erotic and violent, as one wholly consumes the object being eaten. At the same time, eating performs a kind of vulnerability to the world, revealing a fundamental interdependence between the eater and that which exists outside her body. Racial Indigestion explores the links between food, visual and literary culture in the nineteenth-century United States to reveal how eating produces political subjects by justifying the social discourses that create bodily meaning. Combing through a visually stunning and rare archive of children's literature, architectural history, domestic manuals, dietetic tracts, novels and advertising, Racial Indigestion tells the story of the consolidation of nationalist mythologies of whiteness via the erotic

politics of consumption. Less a history of commodities than a history of

eating itself, the book seeks to understand how eating became a political act, linked to appetite, vice, virtue, race and class inequality and, finally, the queer pleasures and pitfalls of a burgeoning commodity culture. In so doing, Racial Indigestion sheds light on contemporary "foodie" culture's vexed relationship to nativism, nationalism and race privilege.