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Titolo	Liars! cheaters! evildoers! [[electronic resource]] : demonization and the end of civil debate in American politics / / Tom De Luca and John Buell
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Altri autori (Persone)	BuellJohn
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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 199-220) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Demonization American-style -- The politics of moral personae -- America's moral paradox -- The deep divide and the most vulnerable -- Seeking the enemy -- Terror, evil, and the new cold war -- Terror wars and culture wars -- Preserve the environment! : become an environmental sport -- Conclusion: A new democratic covenant.
Sommario/riassunto	The level of vitriol in American politics has been rising with no end in sight. Terms like "evildoer," "war on terror," and "axis of evil" have become commonplace in our discussion of international politics. What ever happened to civil debate? Where has all this moralizing come from? And what harm has this new level of attack caused to democracy in America?In this compelling and cogent account, Tom De Luca and John Buell chart the rise of what they rightly label as the "demonization" of American politics, showing how political campaigns often neglect debates over policy in favor of fights over the private character and personal lives of politicians. Political interests are still served by this style of politics, but democracy, the authors contend, is the loser. Covering everything from the Clinton impeachment to the war on

terrorism to the 2004 presidential campaign, the authors show the distinctly American qualities of demonization and how their frequency and intensity has grown in the last four decades. Suggesting that demonization is not inevitable or irreversible, this important book offers ways out of the political mudpit and back to a more civilized debate where democracy and freedom of speech can coexist in a productive, idea-rich environment.
