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Autore	Franklin Benjamin <1706-1790.>
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Altri autori (Persone)	MorganEdmund S <1916-> (Edmund Sears)
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Soggetti	Statesmen - United States United States Politics and government To 1775 Sources United States Politics and government 1775-1783 Sources United States Politics and government 1783-1789 Sources United States Social life and customs 18th century Sources
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Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Preface -- Introduction -- 1 The young man and the old man -- 2 Friendship and flirtation -- 3 The uses of laughter -- 4 Religion -- Introduction -- 5 Sickness and health -- 6 Wind, weather, and air -- 7 Ships and the sea -- 8 Electric fire -- 9 Geology and cosmology -- Introduction -- 10 The colonies and the empire -- 11 Ethnic pride and prejudice -- 12 Join or die -- 13 The vision challenged -- 14 The empire at risk -- Introduction -- 15 Independence -- 16 Poor Richard's diplomacy -- 18 The pretensions of wealth -- 19 America -- Chronology -- Credits -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	This engaging book reveals Benjamin Franklin's human side-his tastes and habits, his enthusiasms, and his devotion to democracy and the people of the United States. Three hundred years after his birth, we may remember Franklin's famous Autobiography, or his status as framer of the Declaration of Independence and the peace with Great

Britain, or his experiments in electricity, or perhaps his sage advice on diligence and thrift. But historian Edmund S. Morgan invites us to meet the man himself, a sociable, good-natured, and extraordinary human being with boundless curiosity about the natural world and a vision of what America could be. Drawing on lifelong research in the vast Franklin archives, Morgan assembles both famous and lesser-known writings that offer insights into this founding father's thinking. The book is organized around four major themes, each with an introduction. The first section includes journal excerpts and letters revealing Franklin's personal tastes and habits. The second is devoted to Franklin's inexhaustible intellectual energy and his scientific discoveries. The third and fourth chronicle his devotion to serving the people who became the United States both before and after the Revolution and to advancing his democratic vision of their future. Franklin's humanity and genius have never seemed more real than in the pages of this appealing anthology.

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