

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910955722403321
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Titolo	Against the gallows : antebellum American writers and the movement to abolish capital punishment // Paul Christian Jones
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Iowa City, : University of Iowa Press, c2011
ISBN	9781609380496 1609380495
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (242 p.)
Disciplina	810.9/3556
Soggetti	Literature and society - United States - History - 19th century Social problems in literature Capital punishment in literature Capital punishment - Moral and ethical aspects - United States
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 (p. 183-222) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Haunted by the gallows: Antebellum American literature and capital punishment -- The politics of poetry: The democratic review and anti-gallows verse in 1840s America -- The American Newgate novel: Antebellum crime fiction and anti- gallows sympathy -- Walt Whitman's anti-gallows writing: The appeal to Christian sympathy -- Women's anti-gallows writing: The sentimental strategy of E. D. E. N. Southworth -- Herman Melville's Billy Budd: The legacy of antebellum anti-gallows literature.
Sommario/riassunto	In Against the Gallows, Paul Christian Jones explores the intriguing cooperation of America's writers-including major figures such as Walt Whitman, John Greenleaf Whittier, E. D. E. N. Southworth, and Herman Melville-with reformers, politicians, clergymen, and periodical editors who attempted to end the practice of capital punishment in the United States during the 1840's and 1850's. In an age of passionate reform efforts, the antigallows movement enjoyed broad popularity, waging its campaign in legislatures, pulpits, newspapers, and literary journals.