Record Nr. UNINA9910956056103321 Autore Beauboeuf-Lafontant Tamara Titolo Behind the mask of the strong black woman: voice and the embodiment of a costly performance / / Tamara Beauboeuf-Lafontant Philadelphia,: Temple University Press, c2009 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 9786612329050 9781282329058 1282329057 9781592136698 1592136699 Edizione [1st ed.] 1 online resource (195 p.) Descrizione fisica Disciplina 155.6/3308996073 Soggetti Women, Black - Psychology Women, Black - Social conditions Character Determination (Personality trait) 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 A half-told tale of black womanhood -- More than "the historical, the monolithic me": deconstructing strong black womanhood -- Living the lies: embodying "good" womanhood -- Keeping up appearances: the performance of strength -- Lies make us sick : embodied distress among strong black women -- Coming to voice: transcending strength -- Epilogue: mules no more, just "levelly human": a societal challenge. The defining quality of Black womanhood is strength, states Tamara Sommario/riassunto Beauboeuf-Lafontant in Behind the Mask of the Strong Black Woman. But, she argues, the idea of strength undermines its real function: to defend and maintain a stratified social order by obscuring Black women's experiences of suffering, acts of desperation, and anger. This provocative book lays bare the common perception that strength is an exemplary or defining quality of "authentic" Black womanhood. The author, a noted sociologist, interviews 58 Black women about being

strong and proud, to illustrate their "perform