

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910956886103321
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Titolo	The signifying monkey : a theory of Afro-American literary criticism // Henry Louis Gates, Jr
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York, : Oxford University Press, c1988
ISBN	1-283-09780-X 9786613097804 0-19-972275-7
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (319 pages)
Disciplina	810/.9/896073
Soggetti	American literature - African American authors - History and criticism - Theory, etc African Americans - Intellectual life African Americans in literature Criticism - United States Oral tradition - United States Mythology, African, in literature African Americans American literature - African influences
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Includes index.
Nota di bibliografia	Bibliography: p.259-280.
Nota di contenuto	PART ONE: A Theory of the Tradition; 1. A Myth of Origins: Esu-Elegbara and the Signifying Monkey; 2. The Signifying Monkey and the Language of Signifyin(g): Rhetorical Difference and the Orders of Meaning; 3. Figures of Signification; PART TWO: Reading the Tradition; 4. The Trope of the Talking Book; 5. Zora Neale Hurston and the Speakerly Text; 6. On "The Blackness of Blackness": Ishmael Reed and a Critique of the Sign; 7. Color Me Zora: Alice Walker's (Re) Writing of the Speakerly Text.
Sommario/riassunto	Henry Louis Gates, Jr.'s original, groundbreaking study explores the relationship between the African and African-American vernacular traditions and black literature, elaborating a new critical approach located within this tradition that allows the black voice to speak for itself. Examining the ancient poetry and myths found in African, Latin

American, and Caribbean culture, and particularly the Yoruba trickster figure of Esu-Elegbara and the Signifying Monkey whose myths help articulate the black tradition's theory of its literature, Gates uncovers a unique system for interpretation and a pow
