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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction: an evening on Malvern Hill -- Preludes: war, slavery, and the Virginia peninsula -- Contraband of war: April-July 1861 -- War is a swift educator: July-December 1861 -- The best informed residents in Virginia: December 1861-April 1862 -- The monuments to negro labor: April-May 1862 -- Those by whom these relations are broken: May 1862 -- An invaluable ally: late May-July 1862 -- A higher destiny: July 1862 -- Conclusion: monarchs of all they survey.
Sommario/riassunto	In the Peninsula Campaign of spring 1862, Union general George B. McClellan failed in his plan to capture the Confederate capital and bring a quick end to the conflict. But the campaign saw something new in the war--the participation of African Americans in ways that were critical to the Union offensive. Ultimately, that participation influenced Lincoln's decision to issue the Emancipation Proclamation at the end of that year. Glenn David Brasher's unique narrative history delves into African American involvement in this pivotal military event, demonstrating that blacks contributed essential m

