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Autore	Epps Garrett
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Sommario/riassunto	In 1987, E.L. Doctorow celebrated the Constitution's bicentennial by reading it. ""It is five thousand words long but reads like fifty thousand,"" he said. Distinguished legal scholar Garrett Epps--himself an award-winning novelist--disagrees. It's about 7,500 words. And Doctorow ""missed a good deal of high rhetoric, many literary tropes, and even a trace of, if not wit, at least irony,"" he writes. Americans may venerate the Constitution, ""but all too seldom is it read."" In American Epic, Epps takes us through a complete reading of the Constitution--

even the ""boring"" parts--to achieve an

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