

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910971384203321
Autore	Karcher Carolyn L. <1945->
Titolo	The first woman in the republic : a cultural biography of Lydia Maria Child / / by Carolyn L. Karcher
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Durham : , : Duke University Press, , 1994
ISBN	9780822398387 0822398389
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (844 p.)
Collana	New Americanists
Disciplina	303.48/4/092 B
Soggetti	Women social reformers - United States Authors, American - 19th century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Chronology -- Prologue: A passion for books -- The author of Hobomok -- Rebels and "Rivals": self portraits of a conflicted young artist -- The Juvenile Miscellany: the creation of an American children's literature -- A marriage of true minds: espousing the Indian cause -- Blighted prospects: Indian fiction and domestic reality -- The Frugal Housewife: financial worries and domestic advice -- Children's literature and antislavery: conservative medium, radical message -- "The First Woman in the Republic": an antislavery baptism -- An antislavery marriage: careers at cross purposes -- The Condition of Women: double binds, unresolved conflicts -- Schisms, personal and political -- The National Anti-Slavery Standard: family newspaper of factional organ? -- Letters From New York: the invention of a new literary genre -- Sexuality and marriage in Fact and Fiction -- The Progress of Religious Ideas: a "pilgrimage of penance" -- Autumnal Leaves: reconsecrated partnerships, personal and political -- The example of John Brown -- Child's Civil War -- Visions of a reconstructed America: The Freedmen's Book and A Romance of the Republic -- A radical old age -- Aspirations of the World -- Afterword.
Sommario/riassunto	"Taking its title from the accolade William Lloyd Garrison bestowed on Child - "she is the first woman in the republic" - this innovative cultural

biography recreates the world as well as the life of a major nineteenth-century figure whose career encompassed issues central to American history. Carolyn L. Karcher captures the throes of a tumultuous era that saw the mass transfer of many Native tribes, ferocious mob violence against abolitionists and African American communities, bitter dissension among reformers over tactics and principles, a dramatic transformation in women's lives, a Civil War unprecedented not only for its carnage but also for its character as a liberation struggle, and a tragically aborted Reconstruction. She explores the key role Child played in shaping American culture at a formative moment in its development and reveals her impact on almost every facet of nineteenth-century letters. She also takes readers into the private life of a complex woman, riven by deep contradictions and remarkably honest about her feelings. This definitive biography restores to the public an eloquent writer and reformer who embodied the best of the American democratic heritage."--BOOK JACKET.

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