

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910971785303321
Autore	Woodruff Paul <1943-2023, >
Titolo	First democracy : the challenge of an ancient idea / / Paul Woodruff
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Oxford, : Oxford University Press, 2005
ISBN	0-19-985074-7 1-280-84642-9 0-19-803938-7 1-4294-3847-9
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xi, 284 pages) : illustrations, maps
Disciplina	320.938509014 321.809385
Soggetti	Democracy - Greece - History Democracy - Greece - Athens - History Democracy - Philosophy
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	1. Introduction : democracy and its doubles -- 2. The life and death of democracy -- 3. Freedom from tyranny (and from being a tyrant) -- 4. Harmony -- 5. The rule of law (nomos) -- 6. Natural equality -- 7. Citizen wisdom -- 8. Reasoning without knowledge -- 9. Education (paideia) -- 10. Afterword : Are Americans ready for democracy?
Sommario/riassunto	"Americans have an unwavering faith in democracy and are ever eager to export it to nations around the world. But how democratic is our own "democracy"? If you can vote, if the majority rules, if you have elected representatives - does this automatically mean that you have a democracy? In this eye-opening look at an ideal that we all take for granted, classical scholar Paul Woodruff offers some surprising answers to these questions." "Drawing on classical literature, philosophy, and history - with many intriguing passages from Sophocles, Aesop, and Plato, among others - Woodruff immerses us in the world of ancient Athens to uncover how the democratic impulse first came to life. If we learn anything from the story of Athens, Woodruff concludes, it should be this - never lose sight of the ideals of democracy. This compact book illuminates these ideals and lights the way as we struggle to keep

democracy alive at home and around the world."--Jacket
