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Autore	Kooijman Jaap
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Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Table of Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction: Fabricating the Absolute Fake -- Chapter One: We Are the World: America's Dominance in Global Pop Culture -- Chapter Two: The Oprahification of 9/11: America as Imagined Community -- Chapter Three: The Desert of the Real: America as Hyperreality -- Chapter Four: Americans We Never Were: Dutch Pop Culture as Karaoke Americanism -- Chapter Five: The Dutch Dream: Americanization, Pop Culture, and National Identity -- Conclusion: Let's Make Things Better -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	From the pageantry of Oprah Winfrey's daytime talk show to the Atlanta-based Coca-Cola empire, American "pop" culture-and the contemporary films, television programs, and cultural objects that determine it-dominate the rest of the world through its hegemonic presence. Does that make everyone a hybridized American or do these elements find mediation within the other cultures that consume them? Fabricating the Absolute Fake applies elements of postmodern theory-Jean Baudrillard's hyperreality and Umberto Eco's "absolute fake", among others-to this globally mediated American pop culture in order

to examine both the phenomenon itself and its specific appropriation in the Netherlands, as evidenced by diverse cultural icons like the Elvis-inspired crooner Lee Towers, the Moroccan-Dutch white rapper Ali B, musical tributes to an assassinated politician, and the Dutch reality soap opera scene. A fascinating exploration of how global cultures struggle to create their own "America" within a post-September 11 media culture, *Fabricating the Absolute Fake* reflects on what it might mean to truly take part in American popular culture. "A brilliant, thoroughly enjoyable work of cultural critique. . . . Jaap Kooijman takes seemingly exhausted concepts like "Americanization" and turns them on their head."-Anne McCarthy, New York University

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