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Nota di contenuto	; Introduction / Maryemma Graham -- ; PART I: THE LONG JOURNEY: THE AFRICAN AMERICAN NOVEL AND HISTORY -- Freeing the voice, creating the self: the novel and slavery / Christopher Mulvey -- Reconstructing the race: the novel after slavery / M. Giulia Fabi -- The novel of the Negro Renaissance / George Hutchinson -- Caribbean migration, ex-isles, and the New World novel / Giselle Liza Anatol -- ; PART II: SEARCH FOR A FORM: THE NEW AMERICAN NOVEL -- The neo-slave narrative / Ashraf H.A. Rushdy -- Coming of age in the African American novel / Claudine Raynaud -- The blues novel / Steven C. Tracy -- From modernism to postmodernism: black literature at the crossroads / Fritz Gysin -- The African American novel and popular culture / Susanne B. Dietzel -- ; PART III: AFRICAN AMERICAN VOICES: FROM MARGIN TO CENTER -- Everybody's protest novel: the era of Richard Wright / Jerry W. Ward Jr. -- Finding common ground: Ralph Ellison and James Baldwin / Herman Beavers -- American Neo-HooDooism: the novels of Ishmael Reed / Pierre-Damien Mvuyekure -- Spaces for readers: the novels of Toni Morrison / Marilyn Mobley McKenzie -- African American womanism: from Zora Neale Hurston to Alice Walker / Lovalerie King -- Vernacular modernism in the novels of John Edgar Wideman and Leon Forrest / Keith Byerman.

Sommario/riassunto

The Cambridge Companion to the African American Novel presents new essays covering the one hundred and fifty year history of the African American novel. Experts in the field from the US and Europe address some of the major issues in the genre: passing, the Protest novel, the Blues novel, and womanism among others. The essays are full of fresh insights for students into the symbolic, aesthetic, and political function of canonical and non-canonical fiction. Chapters examine works by Ralph Ellison, Leon Forrest, Toni Morrison, Ishmael Reed, Alice Walker, John Edgar Wideman, and many others. They reflect a range of critical methods intended to prompt new and experienced readers to consider the African American novel as a cultural and literary act of extraordinary significance. This volume, including a chronology and guide to further reading, is an important resource for students and teachers alike.
