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Nota di contenuto	Comedies by early American women / Amelia Howe Kritzer -- Women writing melodrama / Sarah J. Blackstone -- Realism and feminism in the Progressive Era / Patricia R. Schroeder -- Susan Glaspell and modernism / Veronica Makowsky -- The expressionist moment: Sophie Treadwell / Jerry Dickey -- Feminism and the marketplace: the career of Rachel Crothers / Brenda Murphy -- The Harlem Renaissance and the new Negro movement / Judith L. Stephens -- Lillian Hellman: feminism, formalism, and politics / Thomas P. Adler -- From Harlem to Broadway: African American women playwrights at mid-century / Margaret B. Wilkerson -- Feminist theory and contemporary drama / Janet Brown -- Feminist theatre of the seventies in the United States / Helene Keyssar -- Contemporary playwrights/traditional forms / Laurin Porter -- Wendy Wasserstein: a feminist voice from the seventies to the present / Jan Balakian -- Contemporary American women playwrights: a brief survey of selected scholarship / Christy Gavin -- Discovering and recovering African American women playwrights writing before 1930 / Christine R. Gray.
Sommario/riassunto	This volume addresses the work of women playwrights throughout the history of the American theatre, from the early pioneers to contemporary feminists. Each chapter introduces the reader to the work

of one or more playwrights and to a way of thinking about plays. Together they cover significant writers such as Rachel Crothers, Susan Glaspell, Lillian Hellman, Sophie Treadwell, Lorraine Hansberry, Alice Childress, Megan Terry, Ntozake Shange, Adrienne Kennedy, Wendy Wasserstein, Marsha Norman, Beth Henley and Maria Irene Fornes. Playwrights are discussed in the context of topics such as early comedy and melodrama, feminism and realism, the Harlem Renaissance, the feminist resurgence of the 1970s and feminist dramatic theory. A detailed chronology and illustrations enhance the volume, which also includes bibliographical essays on recent criticism and on African-American women playwrights before 1930.
