

1. Record Nr.	UNISA996248238503316
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Titolo	The final victim of the blacklist [[electronic resource]] : John Howard Lawson, dean of the Hollywood Ten // Gerald Horne
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Berkeley, : University of California Press, c2006
ISBN	9786612358579 0-520-93993-X 1-282-35857-X 1-60129-501-4
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (385 p.)
Disciplina	812/.52 B
Soggetti	Dramatists, American - 20th century Screenwriters - United States Blacklisting of authors - United States Communism and literature - United States - History - 20th century Theater - New York (State) - New York - History - 20th century Motion picture industry - California - Los Angeles - History Electronic books.
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 (p. 269-345) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Prologue -- Introduction -- 1. Beginnings -- 2. Toward Commitment -- 3. Hollywood -- 4. From Hollywood to Broadway -- 5. Commitment -- 6. Theory and Practice -- 7. Struggle -- 8. Fighting-and Writing -- 9. Writing-and Fighting -- 10. Red Scare Rising -- 11. Inquisition -- 12. Jailed for Ideas -- 13. "Blacklisted" -- 14. The Fall of Red Hollywood -- Conclusion -- Notes -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Before he attained notoriety as Dean of the Hollywood Ten-the blacklisted screenwriters and directors persecuted because of their varying ties to the Communist Party-John Howard Lawson had become one of the most brilliant, successful, and intellectual screenwriters on the Hollywood scene in the 1930's and 1940's, with several hits to his credit including Blockade, Sahara, and Action in the North Atlantic.

After his infamous, almost violent, 1947 hearing before the House Un-American Activities Committee, Lawson spent time in prison and his lucrative career was effectively over. Studded with anecdotes and based on previously untapped archives, this first biography of Lawson brings alive his era and features many of his prominent friends and associates, including John Dos Passos, Theodore Dreiser, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Charles Chaplin, Gene Kelly, Edmund Wilson, Ernest Hemingway, Humphrey Bogart, Dalton Trumbo, Ring Lardner, Jr., and many others. Lawson's life becomes a prism through which we gain a clearer perspective on the evolution and machinations of McCarthyism and anti-Semitism in the United States, on the influence of the left on Hollywood, and on a fascinating man whose radicalism served as a foil for launching the political careers of two Presidents: Richard Nixon and Ronald Reagan. In vivid, marvelously detailed prose, *Final Victim of the Blacklist* restores this major figure to his rightful place in history as it recounts one of the most captivating episodes in twentieth century cinema and politics.
