

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910132637503321
Autore	Ketabgian Tamara Siroone
Titolo	The lives of machines : the industrial imaginary in Victorian literature and culture / / Tamara Ketabgian
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Ann Arbor, Michigan : , : University of Michigan Press, , [2011] ©2001
ISBN	9780472900350 0472900358 9780472051403 0472051407 9780472071401 0472071408
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (252 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)
Classificazione	HIS015000LIT000000LIT004120
Disciplina	820.9/356
Soggetti	English literature - 19th century - History and criticism Literature and technology - Great Britain - History - 19th century Machinery in literature Machinery - Great Britain - History - 19th century Technology - Social aspects - Great Britain - History - 19th century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (pages 203-219) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Human parts and prosthetic networks : the Victorian factory and mesmeric forces -- Animal machine -- "Melancholy mad elephants" : affect and the animal machine in Hard times -- Brute appetites : labor and leisure in Mary Barton and early Victorian Manchester -- Psychic forces : steam, water, and mechanical perception in The mill on the floss -- "A musical steam engine" : sympathy, technique, and industrial community.
Sommario/riassunto	Today we commonly describe ourselves as machines that "let off steam" or feel "under pressure." The Lives of Machines investigates how Victorian technoculture came to shape this language of human emotion so pervasively and irrevocably and argues that nothing is more intensely human and affecting than the nonhuman. Tamara Ketabgian

explores the emergence of a modern and more mechanical view of human nature in Victorian literature and culture. Treating British literature from the 1830s to the 1870s, this study examines forms of feeling and community that combine the vital and the mechanical, the human and the nonhuman, in surprisingly hybrid and productive alliances. Challenging accounts of industrial alienation that still persist, the author defines mechanical character and feeling not as erasures or negations of self, but as robust and nuanced entities in their own right. The *Lives of Machines* thus offers an alternate cultural history that traces sympathies between humans, animals, and machines in novels and nonfiction about factory work as well as in other unexpected literary sites and genres, whether domestic, scientific, musical, or philosophical. Katabgian historicizes a model of affect and community that continues to inform recent theories of technology, psychology, and the posthuman. The *Lives of Machines* will be of interest to students of British literature and history, history of science and of technology, novel studies, psychoanalysis, and postmodern cultural studies.

---