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Nota di contenuto	1. Introduction: Literary Cultures and Eighteenth-Century Childhoods - Andrew O'Malley -- 2. Age, Status, and Reading in the 18th Century - Teresa Michals -- 3. Circulating Childhood in Eighteenth-Century England: The Cultural Work of Periodicals - Anja Müller -- 4. Wards, and Apprentices: The Legal and Literary Construction of the Familial Position of the Child - Cheryl Nixon -- 5. 'Pray let none see this impertinent Epistle': Children's Letters and Children in Letters at the Turn of the Eighteenth Century - Adrianna Benzaquén -- 6. Learned Pigs and Literate Children: Becoming Human in Eighteenth-Century Literary Cultures - Ann Wierda Rowland -- 7. Fable and Family in Sarah Trimmer's Fabulous Histories - Heather Klemann -- 8. Eighteenth-Century Children's Poetry and the Complexities of the Child's Mind - Louise Joy -- 9. "Powers Expanding Slow": Children's "Unfolding" Minds in Radical Writing of the 1790s - Susan Manly -- 10. Mediocrity: Mechanical Training and Music for Girls - Donelle Ruwe -- 11. From Wild Fictions to Accurate Observations: Domesticating Wonder in Children's Literature of the Late Eighteenth-Century - Richard De Ritter -- 12. "To Communicate Energy": Eliza Fenwick Cultures the New-World Child - Lissa Paul -- 13. In the Margins: Children and Graphic

Satire in the Eighteenth Century and early Nineteenth Century - Sebastian Mitchell -- 14. Redefining the Gothic Child: An Educational Experiment? - Jessica Evans -- 15. Lemuel Hayes and "Little Adults": Race and the Prehistory of Childhood in Early New England - Jennifer Thorn.

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Sommario/riassunto

The essays in this volume offer fresh and innovative considerations both of how children interacted with the world of print, and of how childhood circulated in the literary cultures of the eighteenth century. They engage with not only the texts produced for the period's newly established children's book market, but also with the figure of the child as it was employed for a variety of purposes in literatures for adult readers. Embracing a wide range of methodological and disciplinary perspectives and considering a variety of contexts, these essays explore childhood as a trope that gained increasing cultural significance in the period, while also recognizing children as active agents in the worlds of familial and social interaction. Together, they demonstrate the varied experiences of the eighteenth-century child alongside the shifting, sometimes competing, meanings that attached themselves to childhood during a period in which it became the subject of intensified interest in literary culture.

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