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Nota di contenuto	1. Introduction: Disordered Mood as Historical Problem -- 2. The Scientific Foundation of Disordered Mood -- 3. The Classification of Melancholia in Mid-Nineteenth-Century British Medicine -- 4. Melancholia and the New Biological Psychiatry -- 5. Statistics, Classification, and the Standardisation of Melancholia -- 6. Diagnosing Melancholia in the Victorian Asylum -- 7. Conclusion: Melancholia, Depression, and the Politics of Classification.
Sommario/riassunto	This open access book maps a crucial but neglected chapter in the history of psychiatry: how was melancholia transformed in the nineteenth century from traditional melancholy madness into a modern biomedical mood disorder, paving the way for the emergence of clinical depression as a psychiatric illness in the twentieth century? At a time when the prevalence of mood disorders and antidepressant consumption are at an all-time high, the need for a comprehensive

historical understanding of how modern depressive illness came into being has never been more urgent. This book addresses a significant gap in existing scholarly literature on melancholia, depression, and mood disorders by offering a contextualised and critical perspective on the history of melancholia in the first decades of psychiatry, from the 1830s until the turn of the twentieth century. .
