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Sommario/riassunto	The construction of history as a social common denominator is a powerful achievement of the nineteenth-century novel, a form dedicated to experimenting with democratic social practice as it conflicts with economic and feudal visions of social order. Through revisionary readings of familiar nineteenth-century texts The English

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Novel in History 1840-1895 takes a multidisciplinary approach to	
literary history. It highlights how narrative shifts from one construction	
of time to another and reformulates fundamental ideas of identity,	
nature and society. Elizabeth Ermarth discusses the	_