Record Nr. UNINA9910456034803321 Autore Nelson Claudia **Titolo** Little strangers [[electronic resource]]: portrayals of adoption and foster care in America, 1850-1929 / / Claudia Nelson Bloomington, : Indiana University Press, c2003 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-282-07206-4 9786612072062 0-253-10557-9 0-253-10980-9 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (225 p.) Disciplina 362.73/4/0973 Soggetti Adoption - United States - History Orphans - United States - History Adoption in literature 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 and index. Nota di contenuto The 1850s and their echoes: two case studies -- Money talks: the displaced child, 1860-1885 -- Melodrama and the displaced child, 1886-1906 -- Metaphor and the displaced child, 1886-1906 --Adoption and women, 1907-1918 -- Adoption up to date: the rhetoric of mass individuality, 1919-1929. When Massachusetts passed America's first comprehensive adoption Sommario/riassunto law in 1851, the usual motive for taking in an unrelated child was presumed to be the need for cheap labor. But by 1929 -- the first year that every state had an adoption law -- the adoptee's main function was seen as emotional. Little Strangers examines the representations of adoption and foster care produced over the intervening years. Claudia

Nelson argues that adoption texts reflect changing attitudes toward

many important social issues