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Nota di contenuto	Preface; Introduction: Vietnam as Figure and Symptom: "We've All Been There"; A Trauma Artist; The Fiction of Vietnam; 1 Fabricating Trauma; "The Vietnam in Me"; O'Brien's Endless War; Posttraumatic Stress Disorder and Vietnam; PTSD and Writing; O'Brien's Art of Trauma; Writing Beyond Vietnam; 2 A Bad War; Origins of ""If I Die in a Combat Zone""; Fictionalized Testimony; O'Brien's Self-Representation: Soldier Versus Writer; Moral Combat; ""Combat Zone"" as Source for a Career; 3 The Old Man and the Pond; Self-Displacement in ""Northern Lights""; Literary Mimicry: Realism, Symbolism, Allegory Harvey's Story: Vietnam as TragicomedyPaul's Story: The Feminization of Virtue; Novel Revisions; 4 A Soldier's Dream; The Re-covering of Trauma: Paul Berlin as Tim O'Brien; ""Cacciato"": From Short Stories to Trauma Narrative; "Going After Cacciato": From Catalog to Breakdown; Paul Berlin: From Breakdown to Trauma Writing; The Quest for Cacciato: Fantasy and the Burial of the Dead; The Observation Post: Retraumatization and Endless Fantasy; 5 The Bombs Are Real; An

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	Ambitious Failure?; The Traumatization of William Cowling; Parabolic Fiction: Mutual Assured Destruction and Civil Defense ""The Nuclear Age"" and VietnamThe Failure of William Cowling; 6 True War Stories; Recirculated Trauma, Endless Fiction; ""The Things They Carried"" as Self-Revision; "How to Tell a True War Story": Misreading Tim O'Brien; Other Refabrications of Trauma; "The Lives of the Dead": Bringing Them Back Alive; 7 The People We Kill; Trauma, Tragedy, National Disgrace; Metafictional Investigations; The Breakdown of John Wade; Tragic Revisions; John Wade as Paradigm and Persona: Tim O'Brien's Trauma; Psychobiography, History, and Fiction; 8 Guys Just Want to Have Fun; Vietnam and the Age of Clinton A Dictionary of LoveIn Defense of Thomas Chippering; PTSD as Comedy/Vietnam as Parody; Saving Tim O'Brien: ""Tomcat in Love"" as Countertherapy; Conclusion: A Trauma Artist; Posttraumatic Nation; Academic Polemics; Responsible Dreams; Appendix: ""Diagnostic Criteria for Posttraumatic Stress Disorder, DSM-IV""; Notes; References; Index
Sommario/riassunto	A Trauma Artist examines how O'Brien's works variously rewrite his own traumatization during the war in Vietnam as a never-ending fiction that paradoxically ""recovers"" personal experience by both recapturing and (re)disguising it. Mark Heberle considers O'Brien's career as a writer through the prisms of post-traumatic stress disorder, postmodernist metafiction, and post-World War II American political uncertainties and public violence.