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Autore	Charney Maurice
Titolo	Wrinkled deep in time [[electronic resource]] : aging in Shakespeare // Maurice Charney
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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 167-172) and index.
Nota di contenuto	King Lear, Titus Andronicus, and Cymbeline -- The process of growing old, especially in Macbeth -- Time the destroyer -- "Heavy" fathers -- Politic old men: Polonius, Nestor, and Menenius -- Wise old men -- Falstaff -- Othello and Leontes -- Old warriors and statesmen in the English history plays -- Fatal attraction: Antony and Cleopatra -- Strong older women -- Older loving women -- Lusty older women.
Sommario/riassunto	Shakespeare was acutely aware of our intimate struggles with aging. His dramatic characters either prosper or suffer according to their relationship with maturity, and his sonnets eloquently explore time's ravaging effects. "Wrinkled deep in time" is how the queen describes herself in Antony and Cleopatra, and at the end of King Lear, there is a tragic sense that both the king and Gloucester have acquired a wisdom they otherwise lacked at the beginning of the play. Even Juliet matures considerably before she drinks Friar Lawrence's potion, and Macbeth and his wife prematurely grow old from their murderous schemes. Drawing on historical documents and the dramatist's own complex depictions, Maurice Charney conducts an original investigation into patterns of aging in Shakespeare, exploring the fulfillment or distress of Shakespeare's characters in combination with their mental and

physical decline. Comparing the characterizations of elderly kings and queens, older lovers, patriarchal men, matriarchal women, and the *senex* the stereotypical old man of Roman comedy with the history of life expectancy in Shakespeare's England, Charney uncovers similarities and differences between our contemporary attitudes toward aging and aging as it was understood more than four hundred years ago. From this dynamic examination, a new perspective on Shakespeare emerges, one that celebrates and deepens our knowledge of his subtler themes and characters.

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