Record Nr. UNINA9910459281603321 Autore Holmes Brooke <1976-> Titolo The symptom and the subject [[electronic resource]]: the emergence of the physical body in ancient Greece / / Brooke Holmes Princeton,: Princeton University Press, c2010 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-282-64503-X 9786612645037 1-4008-3488-0 Edizione [Core Textbook] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (382 p.) Disciplina 616/.047 Soggetti **Symptoms** Medicine, Greek and Roman Human body - Greece Electronic books. **Greece Civilization** Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Front matter -- CONTENT S -- Preface and Acknowledgments --Abbreviations -- Note on Transliterations and Translations --INTRODUCTION -- CHAPTER ONE: Before the Physical Body -- CHAPTER TWO: The Inquiry into Nature and the Physical Imagination -- CHAPTER THREE: Incorporating the Daemonic -- CHAPTER FOUR: Signs of Life and Techniques of Taking Care -- CHAPTER FIVE: Beyond the Sma: Therapies of the Psukh -- CHAPTER SIX: Forces of Nature, Acts of Gods: Euripides' Symptoms -- Conclusion -- Bibliography -- Index Locorum -- General Index Sommario/riassunto The Symptom and the Subject takes an in-depth look at how the physical body first emerged in the West as both an object of knowledge and a mysterious part of the self. Beginning with Homer, moving

physical body first emerged in the West as both an object of knowledge and a mysterious part of the self. Beginning with Homer, moving through classical-era medical treatises, and closing with studies of early ethical philosophy and Euripidean tragedy, this book rewrites the traditional story of the rise of body-soul dualism in ancient Greece. Brooke Holmes demonstrates that as the body (sôma) became a subject of physical inquiry, it decisively changed ancient Greek ideas about the

meaning of suffering, the soul, and human nature. By undertaking a new examination of biological and medical evidence from the sixth through fourth centuries BCE, Holmes argues that it was in large part through changing interpretations of symptoms that people began to perceive the physical body with the senses and the mind. Once attributed primarily to social agents like gods and daemons, symptoms began to be explained by physicians in terms of the physical substances hidden inside the person. Imagining a daemonic space inside the person but largely below the threshold of feeling, these physicians helped to radically transform what it meant for human beings to be vulnerable, and ushered in a new ethics centered on the responsibility of taking care of the self. The Symptom and the Subject highlights with fresh importance how classical Greek discoveries made possible new and deeply influential ways of thinking about the human subject.