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Nota di contenuto

Preliminary material / Editors Ethics and Trauma in Contemporary
British Fiction -- INTRODUCTION / JEAN-MICHEL GANTEAU and

SUSANA ONEGA -- READING TRAUMA IN PAT BARKER'S REGENERATION TRILOGY / LENA STEVEKER -- THE ETHICAL CLOCK OF TRAUMA IN EVA FIGES' WINTER JOURNEY / SILVIA PELLICER-ORTÍN -- "NOBODY'SMEAT": REVISITING RAPE AND SEXUAL TRAUMA THROUGH ANGELA CARTER / CHARLEY BAKER -- "A NEW ALGEBRA": THE POETICS AND ETHICS OF TRAUMA IN J.G. BALLARD'S THE ATROCITY EXHIBITION / JAKOB

WINNBERG -- TRAUMA AS THE NEGATION OF AUTONOMY: MICHAEL MOORCOCK'S MOTHER LONDON / JEAN-MICHEL GANTEAU -- WHERE MADNESS LIES: HOLOCAUST REPRESENTATION AND THE ETHICS OF FORM IN MARTIN AMIS' TIME'S ARROW / MARÍA JESÚS MARTÍNEZ-

ALFARO -- WORLDWAR II FICTION AND THE ETHICS OF TRAUMA / GERD BAYER -- A TERRIBLE BEAUTY: ETHICS, AESTHETICS AND THE TRAUMA OF GAYNESS IN ALAN HOLLINGHURST'S THE LINE OF BEAUTY / JOSÉ M.

YEBRA -- "THE ETERNAL LOOP OF SELF-TORTURE": ETHICS AND

TRAUMA IN IANMCEWAN'S ATONEMENT / GEORGES LETISSIER -CONJUNCTURES OF UNEASINESS: TRAUMA IN FAY WELDON'S THE HEART
OF THE COUNTRY AND IN IAN MCEWAN'S ON CHESIL BEACH / ANGELA
LOCATELLI -- REPRESENTING THE CHILD SOLDIER: TRAUMA,
POSTCOLONIALISM AND ETHICS IN DELIA JARRETTMACAULEY'SMOSES,
CITIZEN AND ME / ANNE WHITEHEAD -- THE TRAUMA PARADIGM AND
THE ETHICS OF AFFECT IN JEANETTE WINTERSON'S THE STONE GODS /
SUSANA ONEGA -- NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS / Editors Ethics and
Trauma in Contemporary British Fiction -- INDEX / Editors Ethics and
Trauma in Contemporary British Fiction.

Sommario/riassunto

This volume is the first book of criticism to provide a systematic analysis of a corpus of emblematic contemporary British fictions from the combined perspective of trauma theory and ethics. Although the fictional work of writers such as Graham Swift has already been approached from this perspective, none of the individual works or authors under analysis in the twelve essays collected in this volume has been given such a systematic and in-depth scrutiny to date. This study, which is addressed to academics and university students of British literature and culture, focuses on the literary representation of trauma in key works by Martin Amis, J. G. Ballard, Pat Barker, John Boyne, Angela Carter, Eva Figes, Alan Hollinghurst, Delia Jarrett-Macauley, A.L. Kennedy, Ian McEwan, Michael Moorcock, Fay Weldon and Jeanette Winterson, within the context of the "ethical turn" in the related fields of literary theory and moral philosophy that has influenced literary criticism over the last three decades, with a special focus on the ethics of alterity, the ethics of truths, and deconstructive ethics.