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Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction: psychiatry, science wars, and the problem of realism -- A scientifically-inspired pragmatism -- Instrumental nominalism -- Psychological and scientific essentialism -- Misplaced literalism -- Literalism and the distrust of authority -- The objective within, not beyond, experience -- Classification and the concept of psychiatric disorder -- Four conceptual abstractions: natural kind, historical concept, normative concept and practical kind -- Can grief really be a disorder? -- Is narcissistic personality disorder real? -- Psychiatry, progress, and thinking philosophically about philosophical concepts.
Sommario/riassunto	In this study Peter Zachar considers such terms as 'real' and 'reality' - invoked in psychiatry but often obscure and remote from their instances - as abstract philosophical concepts. He then examines the implications of his approach for psychiatric classification and psychopathology. Proposing what he calls a scientifically inspired pragmatism, Zachar considers such topics as the essentialist bias, diagnostic literalism, and the concepts of natural kind and social construct.