Record Nr. UNINA9910465175103321 Autore Hirschfeld Heather Anne <1968-> Titolo The end of satisfaction: drama and repentance in the age of Shakespeare / / Heather Anne Hirschfeld Pubbl/distr/stampa Ithaca, New York: .: Cornell University Press, . 2014 ©2014 **ISBN** 0-8014-7062-5 0-8014-7063-3 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (255 p.) Disciplina 822/.309353 Soggetti English drama - Early modern and Elizabethan, 1500-1600 - History and criticism Repentance in literature Desire in literature Electronic books. Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction: Where's Satisfaction? -- 1. "Adew, to al Popish satisfactions": Reforming Repentance in Early Modern En gland -- 2. The Satisfactions of Hell: Doctor Faustus and the Descensus Tradition -- 3. Setting Things Right: The Satisfactions of Revenge -- 4. As Good as a Feast?: Playing (with) Enough on the Elizabethan Stage -- 5. "Wooing, wedding, and repenting": The Satisfactions of Marriage in Othello and Love's Pilgrimage -- Postscript: Where's the Stage at the End of Satisfaction? -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index Sommario/riassunto In The End of Satisfaction, Heather Hirschfeld recovers the historical specificity and the conceptual vigor of the term "satisfaction" during the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries. Focusing on the term's significance as an organizing principle of Christian repentance, she examines the ways in which Shakespeare and his contemporaries dramatized the consequences of its re- or de-valuation in the process

of Reformation doctrinal change. The Protestant theology of

repentance, Hirschfeld suggests, underwrote a variety of theatrical

plots "to set things right" in a world shorn of the prospect of "making enough" (satisfacere). Hirschfeld's semantic history traces today's use of "satisfaction"-as an unexamined measure of inward gratification rather than a finely nuanced standard of relational exchange-to the pressures on legal, economic, and marital discourses wrought by the Protestant rejection of the Catholic sacrament of penance (contrition, confession, satisfaction) and represented imaginatively on the stage. In so doing, it offers fresh readings of the penitential economies of canonical plays including Dr. Faustus, The Revenger's Tragedy, The Merchant of Venice, and Othello; considers the doctrinal and generic importance of lesser-known plays including Enough Is as Good as a Feast and Love's Pilgrimage; and opens new avenues into the study of literature and repentance in early modern England.