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Nota di contenuto	CONTENTS; INTRODUCTION: The Girl and the Water Lily; ONE: Linnaeus's Blooms: The Birth of the Botanical Vernacular; The Rise of Botanical Culture; The Mechanics of the Botanical Vernacular; Botanical Mimetics and the Novel; The Eighteenth Century: Occluded Blooms; Toward the Nineteenth Century: The Bloom Narrative; TWO: Imaginative Literature and the Politics of Botany; Botany's Gendered Controversies; Botanical Modesty: Edgeworth's Belinda; Botanical Poetry: Charlotte Smith and Erasmus Darwin; THREE: Austen's Physicalized Mimesis: Garden, Landscape, Marriageable Girl Lovers Walk: Burney's Evelina and Austen's Pride and Prejudice/Improving Grounds, Improving Complexions; Bloom: Pride and Prejudice, Mansfield Park, Emma, Persuasion; FOUR: Eliot's Vernaculars: Natural Objects and Revisionary Blooms; Ossification: Midcentury Bloom in Dickens; Revivification: Midcentury Bloom in Middlemarch and

Adam Bede; Organic Realism: Eliot and Natural History; FIVE: Inside and Outside the Plot: Rewriting the Bloom Script in James; The Critic and Bloom; The Girl as Topic: Watch and Ward and The Awkward Age; A Blooming Consciousness: The Portrait of a Lady  
Bloom's Decadence: The Wings of the Dove and The Picture of Dorian Gray  
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Sommario/riassunto

Starting from the botanical crazes inspired by Linnaeus in the 18th century and exploring the variations it spawned, this study offers a fresh, detailed reading of the courtship novel from Jane Austen to George Eliot and Henry James.

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