1. Record Nr. UNINA9910466862303321 Autore Brown Jeffrey A. <1966-> Titolo Beyond bombshells: the new action heroine in popular culture / / Jeffrey A. Brown Pubbl/distr/stampa Jackson:,: University Press of Mississippi,, [2015] ©2015 1-4968-0323-X **ISBN** Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (274 p.) Disciplina 809/.933522 Soggetti Women heroes in literature Women in popular culture Women heroes in motion pictures Mass media and women Action and adventure films - History and criticism Comic books, strips, etc - History and criticism Heroines in literature Electronic books. Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Includes bibliographical references (pages 242-254) and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Cover; CONTENTS; INTRODUCTION; 1. Torture, Rape, Action Heroines, and The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo; 2. Teams, Partners, Romance, and Action Heroines; 3. Ethnicity and New Action Heroines; 4. Panthers and Vixens Black Superheroines, Sexuality, and Stereotypes in

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Sommario/riassunto

"Beyond Bombshells analyzes the cultural importance of strong women in a variety of current media forms. Action heroines are now more popular in movies, comic books, television, and literature than they

have ever been. Their spectacular presence represents shifting ideas about female agency, power, and sexuality. Beyond Bombshells explores how action heroines reveal and reconfigure perceptions about "how" and "why" women are capable of physically dominating roles in modern fiction, indicating the various strategies used to contain and/or exploit female violence. Focusing on a range of successful and controversial recent heroines in the mass media, including Katniss Everdeen from The Hunger Games books and movies, Lisabeth Salander from The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo novels and films, and Hit-Girl from the Kick-Ass movies and comic books, Brown argues that the role of action heroine reveals evolving beliefs about femininity. While women in action roles are still heavily sexualized and objectified, they also challenge preconceived myths about normal or culturally appropriate gender behavior. The ascribed sexuality of modern heroines remains Brown's consistent theme, particularly how objectification intersects with issues of racial stereotyping, romantic fantasies, images of violent adolescent and preadolescent girls, and neoliberal feminist revolutionary parables. Individual chapters study the gendered dynamics of torture in action films, the role of women in partnerships with male colleagues, young women as well as revolutionary leaders in dystopic societies, adolescent sexuality and romance in action narratives, the historical import of non-white heroines, and how modern African American, Asian, and Latina heroines both challenge and are restricted by longstanding racial stereotypes"--