Record Nr. UNINA9910495970403321 Autore Gallagher Catherine Titolo Nobody's Story: The Vanishing Acts of Women Writers in the Marketplace, 1670-1920 / / Catherine Gallagher Berkeley, California: ,: University of California Press, , [1995] Pubbl/distr/stampa ©1994 **ISBN** 0-520-91714-6 0-585-17656-6 Edizione [First edition.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (xxiv, 339 pages) The New Historicism;; Volume 31. Collana Disciplina 820.9/9287/09032 Soggetti English literature - Women authors - History and criticism Sex role in literature Women and literature - Great Britain - History - 17th century Women and literature - Great Britain - History - 18th century Women and literature - Great Britain - History - 19th century Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali "First paperback printing 1995"--T.p. verso. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Front matter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction -- 1. Who Was That Masked Woman? -- 2. The Author-Monarch and the Royal Slave -- 3. Political Crimes and Fictional Alibis -- 4. Nobody's Credit -- 5. Nobody's Debt -- 6. The Changeling's Debt -- Index Exploring the careers of five influential women writers of the Sommario/riassunto Restoration and eighteenth century, Catherine Gallagher reveals the connections between the increasing prestige of female authorship, the economy of credit and debt, and the rise of the novel. The "nobodies" of her title are not ignored, silenced, or anonymous women. Instead, they are literal nobodies: the abstractions of authorial personae. printed books, intellectual property rights, literary reputations, debts and obligations, and fictional characters. These are the exchangeable tokens of modern authorship that lent new cultural power to the increasing number of women writers through the eighteenth century. Women writers, Gallagher discovers, invented and popularized numerous ingenious similarities between their gender and their

occupation. The terms "woman," "author," "marketplace," and "fiction"

come to define each other reciprocally. Gallagher analyzes the provocative plays of Aphra Behn, the scandalous court chronicles of Delarivier Manley, the properly fictional nobodies of Charlotte Lennox and Frances Burney, and finally Maria Edgeworth's attempts in the late eighteenth century to reform the unruly genre of the novel.