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Nota di contenuto	1. Introduction: Overviews of the Present -- Part I: Panoramic Perspective -- 2. Contemporary History in Panoramas -- 3. Panoramic Perspective in Histories of the French Revolution: Thomas Carlyle Versus Archibald Alison -- 4. The Napoleonic Wars from Near and Far: Thomas Hardy's The Trumpet-Major and The Dynasts -- Part II Transition: Between Panoramas and Compilations -- 5. Photography Remediated in the Crimean War: Illustration, Exhibition and Collection -- Part III: Big data: Compilations of Contemporaneity -- 6. An Index to the Scale of Modernity: Big Data and The Review of Reviews -- 7. Ephemeral Collective Biography: Men of the Time (1852–99) -- 8. Collective Biography as Monument? The Dictionary of National Biography -- 9. Conclusions: Overview Through Immersion.
Sommario/riassunto	This book shows how in nineteenth-century Britain, confronted with the newly industrialized and urbanized modern world, writers, artists, journalists and impresarios tried to gain an overview of contemporary history. They drew on two successive but competing conceptual models of overview: the panorama and the compilation. Both models claimed to offer a holistic picture of the present moment, but took very different

approaches. This book shows that panoramas (360° views previously associated with the Romantic period) and compilations (big data projects previously associated with the Victorian fin de siècle) are intertwined, relevant across the entire century, and often remediated, making them crucial lenses through which to view a broad range of genre and forms. It brings together interdisciplinary research materials belonging to different period silos to create new understandings of how nineteenth-century audiences dealt with information overload. It argues for a new politics of distance: one that recognizes the value of immersing oneself in a situation, event or phenomenon, but which also does not chastise us for trying to see the big picture. This book is essential reading for students and scholars of nineteenth-century literature, history, visual culture and information studies. Helen Kingstone is a Lecturer in Nineteenth-Century Literature and Visual Culture at Royal Holloway, University of London, UK. Her first book, *Victorian Narratives of the Recent Past: Memory, History, Fiction*, was published by Palgrave Macmillan in 2017. She co-chaired a Wellcome Trust-funded Humanities and Social Sciences network on 'Generations' from 2019 to 2021, and has been a co-director of the Centre for Research on Ageing and Generations at the University of Surrey.
