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Nota di contenuto	Chapter 1. Introduction. Why a book about biological death in philosophy? What to find in it? -- Chapter 2. How Late 18th-Century Physiologists Understood the Living World and their task -- Chapter 3. Bichat's theories and their genealogy -- Chapter 4. Physiology in Bichat's Physiological Researches on Life and Death -- Chapter 5. Bichat's experimental physiology in the Recherches (part 2): death as an epistemic facilitator -- Chapter 6. Life and Death in Experimental Physiology after Bichat -- Chapter 7. A providentialist metaphysics and the traditional economics of death : mortality and individuality -- Chapter 8. The evolutionary synthesis' view of death: Peter Medawar, George C. Williams and the riddles of senescence -- Chapter 9 - Epistemology of death (1) : goals and evidences -- Chapter 10. Epistemology of death (2): experiments, tests and mechanisms -- Chapter 11. Ontology. The economics of death. and its trade-offs -- Chapter 12. Ontology (2). Death programs and their discontents -- Chapter 13. Ontology (3). The case(s) for programs: Altruistic suicide, quasi-programs and smurfs -- Chapter 14. Death is a social issue -- Chapter 15. Conclusion.
Sommario/riassunto	This book addresses several key issues in the biological study of death

with the intent of capturing their genealogy, the assumptions and presuppositions they make, and the way that they open specific new research avenues. The book is divided into two sections: the first considers physiology and the second evolutionary biology. Huneman explains that biologists in the late 1950s put forth a research framework that evolutionarily accounts for death in terms of either an effect of the weakness of natural selection or a by-product of natural selection for early reproduction. He illustrates how the biology of death is a central field and that studying it provides insight into the way that the epistemic structure of this knowledge has been constituted, persists until now, and may conflict with some traditional philosophical ideas. Philippe Huneman is Research Director at the Institut d'Histoire et de Philosophie des Sciences et des Techniques at the Université Paris, France. He is also an affiliated professor at the University of Toronto, Canada, and he has published extensively on the philosophy of evolutionary biology and ecology. .
