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Titolo	Science, Medicine, and Aristocratic Lineage in Victorian Popular Fiction // by Abigail Boucher
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Soggetti	Literature, Modern - 19th century Fiction Medicine and the humanities Science - History Celebrities Great Britain - History Nineteenth-Century Literature Fiction Literature Medical Humanities History of Science Celebrity Studies History of Britain and Ireland
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Nota di contenuto	Introduction -- Chapter 1: Fashionable Diseases: Consumerism, Class, and Health in the Silver Fork Novels -- Chapter 2: "Unblessed by Offspring": Fertility and the Aristocratic Male in Reynolds's The Mysteries of the Court of London -- Chapter 3: Aristocratic Inbreeding: Exogamy and Endogamy in Sensation Fiction -- Chapter 4: Aristocratic Origins, Heredity, and Evolution in the Fin de Siècle Medieval Revival -- Conclusion.
Sommario/riassunto	Science, Medicine, and Aristocratic Lineage in Victorian Popular Fiction explores the dialogue between popular literature and medical and

scientific discourse in terms of how they represent the highly visible and pathologized British aristocratic body. This book explores and complicates the two major portrayals of aristocrats in nineteenth-century literature: that of the medicalised, frail, debauched, and diseased aristocrat, and that of the heroic, active, beautiful 'noble', both of which are frequent and resonant in popular fiction of the long nineteenth century. Abigail Boucher argues that the concept of class in the long nineteenth century implicitly includes notions of blood, lineage, and bodily 'correctness', and that 'class' was therefore frequently portrayed as an empirical, scientific, and medical certainty. Due to their elevated and highly visible social positions, both historical and fictional aristocrats were frequently pathologized in the public mind and watched for signs of physical excellence or deviance. Using popular fiction, Boucher establishes patterns across decades, genres, and demographics and considers how these patterns react to, normalise, or feed into the advent of new scientific and medical understandings.
