

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910778536703321
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Titolo	The hypothetical mandarin : sympathy, modernity, and Chinese Pain / / Eric Hayot
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Oxford : , : Oxford University Press, , 2009
ISBN	0-19-988857-4 1-282-33650-9 9786612336508 0-19-970326-4 0-19-970011-7
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xiii, 278 pages) : illustrations
Disciplina	303.4825104
Soggetti	Civilization - Chinese influences Sympathy - Moral and ethical aspects - History China In literature Europe Civilization Chinese influences
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Sommario/riassunto	Through readings of novels, medical case studies, travelers' reports, photographs, and paintings, this book shows that in the West the connection between sympathy and humanity, and indeed between sympathy and reality, has tended to refract with a remarkable frequency through the lens called 'China.'