

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910780061403321
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Titolo	The bounds of agency [[electronic resource]] : an essay in revisionary metaphysics // Carol Rovane
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Princeton, N.J., : Princeton University Press, c1998
ISBN	0-691-19888-8 1-282-75333-9 9786612753336 1-4008-2242-4 1-4008-1323-9
Edizione	[Course Book]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (271 p.)
Collana	Princeton Legacy Library ; ; 5567
Disciplina	126
Soggetti	Agent (Philosophy) Self (Philosophy) Subject (Philosophy)
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [251]-254) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- CONTENTS -- ACKNOWLEDGMENTS -- PART I: LESSONS FROM LOCKE Introduction to Part I -- Introduction to Part I -- CHAPTER ONE. Preview of the Normative Analysis of Personal Identity -- CHAPTER TWO. On the Need for Revision -- CHAPTER THREE. A Revisionary Proposal -- PART II: PERSONAL IDENTITY: THE BODY PRACTIC -- Introduction to Part II -- CHAPTER FOUR. A Sufficient Condition for Personal Identity -- CHAPTER FIVE. The Sufficient Condition Is Also Necessary -- CHAPTER SIX. The First Person -- POSTSCRIPT -- BIBLIOGRAPHY -- INDEX
Sommario/riassunto	The subject of personal identity is one of the most central and most contested and exciting in philosophy. Ever since Locke, psychological and bodily criteria have vied with one another in conflicting accounts of personal identity. Carol Rovane argues that, as things stand, the debate is unresolvable since both sides hold coherent positions that our common sense will embrace. Our very common sense, she maintains, is conflicted; so any resolution to the debate is bound to be revisionary. She boldly offers such a revisionary theory of personal identity by first

inquiring into the nature of persons. Rovane begins with a premise about the distinctive ethical nature of persons to which all substantive ethical doctrines, ranging from Kantian to egoist, can subscribe. From this starting point, she derives two startling metaphysical possibilities: there could be group persons composed of many human beings and multiple persons within a single human being. Her conclusion supports Locke's distinction between persons and human beings, but on altogether new grounds. These grounds lie in her radically normative analysis of the condition of personal identity, as the condition in which a certain normative commitment arises, namely, the commitment to achieve overall rational unity within a rational point of view. It is by virtue of this normative commitment that individual agents can engage one another specifically as persons, and possess the distinctive ethical status of persons.
