Record Nr. UNINA9910781243003321 Autore McCrea Barry <1974-> Titolo In the company of strangers [[electronic resource]]: family and narrative in Dickens, Conan Doyle, Joyce, and Proust / / Barry McCrea New York, : Columbia University Press, 2011 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-283-09404-5 9786613094049 0-231-52733-0 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (441 p.) Collana Modernist latitudes Classificazione 17.93 823/.809355 Disciplina English fiction - 19th century - History and criticism Soggetti Fiction - 20th century - History and criticism Families in literature Queer theory Modernism (Literature) 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 and index. Queer expectations -- Holmes at home -- Family and form in Ulysses Nota di contenuto -- Proust's farewell to the family. Sommario/riassunto In the Company of Strangers shows how a reconception of family and kinship underlies the revolutionary experiments of the modernist novel. While stories of marriage and long-lost relatives were a mainstay of classic Victorian fiction, Barry McCrea suggests that rival countercurrents within these family plots set the stage for the formal innovations of Joyce and Proust. Tracing the challenges to the family plot mounted by figures such as Fagin, Sherlock Holmes, Leopold Bloom, and Charles Swann, McCrea tells the story of how bonds generated by chance encounters between strangers come to take over the role of organizing narrative time and give shape to fictional worldsa task and power that was once the preserve of the genealogical family. By investigating how the question of family is a hidden key to modernist structure and style, In the Company of Strangers explores the formal narrative potential of queerness and in doing so rewrites the

history of the modern novel.