

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910782832703321
Autore	Thormahlen Marianne <1949->
Titolo	The Brontes and religion / / Marianne Thormahlen [[electronic resource]]
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge : , : Cambridge University Press, , 1999
ISBN	1-107-11816-6 0-511-04874-2 0-511-00277-7 1-280-16210-4 0-511-11803-1 0-511-15003-2 0-511-48495-X 0-511-32458-8
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (x, 287 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)
Disciplina	823/.8093823
Soggetti	Christianity and literature - England - History - 19th century English fiction - Women authors - History and criticism English fiction - 19th century - History and criticism Women and literature - England - History - 19th century Christian fiction, English - History and criticism Theology in literature Clergy in literature
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015).
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 271-277) and index.
Nota di contenuto	; I. Denominations. ; 1. A Christian home in early nineteenth-century England: Evangelicalism, Dissent and the Bronte family. ; 2. Charlotte Bronte and the Church of Rome. ; 3. An undenominational temper -- ; II. Doctrines. ; 4. The Brontes in the theological landscape of their time. ; 5. God and his creation. ; 6. Faith and redemption. ; 7. This life and the next -- ; III. Ethics. ; 8. Forgiveness and revenge. ; 9. The Christian life -- ; IV. Clerics. ; 10. Clergymen in the Bronte novels. ; 11. The enigma of St. John Rivers.

## Sommario/riassunto

This is the first full-length study of religion in the fiction of the Brontes. Drawing on extensive knowledge of the Anglican church in the nineteenth century, Marianne Thormahlen shows how the Brontes' familiarity with the contemporary debates on doctrinal, ethical and ecclesiastical issues informs their novels. Divided into four parts, the book examines denominations, doctrines, ethics and clerics in the work of the Brontes. The analyses of the novels clarify the constant interplay of human and Divine love in the development of the novels. While demonstrating that the Brontes' fiction usually reflects the basic tenets of Evangelical Anglicanism, the book emphasises the characteristic spiritual freedom and audacity of the Brontes. Lucid and vigorously written, it will open up new perspectives for Bronte specialists and enthusiasts alike on a fundamental aspect of the novels greatly neglected in recent decades.

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