

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910783798703321
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Titolo	From lowbrow to nobrow [[electronic resource] /] / Peter Swirski
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Montreal, Que., : McGill-Queen's University Press, c2005
ISBN	1-282-86385-1 9786612863851 0-7735-7324-0
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (232 p.)
Disciplina	809.3/04
Soggetti	Popular literature - History and criticism Fiction - 20th century - History and criticism
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [193]-216) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front Matter -- Contents -- Introduction: Books Without Frontiers -- Lowbrow: Positions and Oppositions -- Facts and Popular Fictions -- Towards Nobrow Aesthetics -- Genres and Paradoxes -- Nobrow: Varie Ties of Arertainment -- Karel Čapek and the Politics of Memory -- Raymond Chandler's Aesthetics of Irony -- Stanislaw Lem and the Art of Science -- Conclusion: Whose Art? -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Swirski begins with a series of groundbreaking questions about the nature of popular fiction, vindicating it as an artform that expresses and reflects the aesthetic and social values of its readers. He follows his insightful introduction to the socio-aesthetics of genre literature with a synthesis of the century long debate on the merits of popular fiction and a study of genre informed by analytic aesthetics and game theory. Swirski then turns to three "nobrow" novels that have been largely ignored by critics. Examining the aesthetics of "arertainment" in Karel Čapek's <i>War with the Newts</i> , Raymond Chandler's <i>Playback</i> , and Stanislaw Lem's <i>Chain of Chance</i> , crossover tours de force, <i>From Lowbrow to Nobrow</i> throws new light on the hazards and rewards of nobrow traffic between popular forms and highbrow aesthetics.