

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910784214203321
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Titolo	Apprenticeships [[electronic resource] ] : the Bildungsroman from Goethe to Santayana / / by Thomas L. Jeffers
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York, N.Y., : Palgrave Macmillan, 2005
ISBN	1-281-36443-6 9786611364434 1-4039-7915-4
Edizione	[1st ed. 2005.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (256 p.)
Disciplina	809.41
Soggetti	Bildungsromans - History and criticism Fiction
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. [223]-231) and index.
Sommario/riassunto	Novels about growing up have long been loved by ordinary readers and analyzed, sometimes with more heat than light, by scholars. This book respects the interests of ordinary readers while clarifying and frequently resolving the moral, psychological, social, and occasionally religious coming-of-age dilemmas that scholars have wrestled with. Focusing on Goethe's Wilhelm Meister, Dickens's David Copperfield, James's What Maisie Knew, Forster's The Longest Journey, Lawrence's Sons and Lovers, and Santayana's The Last Puritan, Jeffers writes in a fresh, engaging style meant to give criticism a liveliness and even brilliance it has in recent decades often lacked.