Record Nr. UNINA9910784500003321 Autore Cohen Jeffrey Jerome **Titolo** Of giants [[electronic resource]]: sex, monsters, and the Middle Ages / / Jeffrey Jerome Cohen Pubbl/distr/stampa Minneapolis, : University of Minnesota Press, c1999 **ISBN** 0-8166-8960-1 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (xx, 235 p.) Collana Medieval cultures;; v. 17 Disciplina 820.9/37 Soggetti English literature - Middle English, 1100-1500 - History and criticism Giants (Folklore) in literature English literature - Old English, ca. 450-1100 - History and criticism Psychoanalysis and literature - England - History - To 1500 Literature and folklore - England - History - To 1500 Romances, English - History and criticism Difference (Psychology) in literature Abnormalities, Human, in literature Monsters in literature Sex in 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 (p. 211-229) and index. Contents; Acknowledgments; Introduction: The Intimate Stranger; 1. Nota di contenuto The Ruins of Identity; 2. Monstrous Origin: Body, Nation, Family; 3. The Body in Pieces: Identity and the Monstrous in Romance; 4. The Giant of Self-Figuration: Diminishing Masculinity in Chaucer's ""Tale of Sir Thopas""; 5. The Body Hybrid: Giants, Dog-Men, and Becoming Inhuman; 6. Exorbitance; Afterword: Transhistoricity; Notes; Bibliography; Index Sommario/riassunto A monster lurks at the heart of medieval identity, and this book seeks him out. Reading a set of medieval texts in which giants and dismemberment figure prominently, Jeffrey Jerome Cohen brings a critical psychoanalytic perspective to bear on the question of identity formation-particularly masculine identity-in narrative representation.

This is a compelling inquiry into the phenomenon of giants and giant-

slaying in various texts from the Anglo-Saxon period to late Middle English, including Beowulf, several works by Chaucer, and Sir Gawain and the Green Knight.