1. Record Nr. UNINA9910785509503321

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Titolo DisPossession [[electronic re

DisPossession [[electronic resource]]: haunting in Canadian fiction //

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Pubbl/distr/stampa Montreal;; Ithaca,: McGill-Queen's University Press, c2012

ISBN 0-7735-3950-6 1-283-58396-8

Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (383 p.)

Disciplina 813.540937

Soggetti Ghosts in literature

Spirit possession in literature Supernatural in literature

Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese

Formato Materiale a stampa

Livello bibliografico Monografia

Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index.

Nota di contenuto Part one The Haunted Nation: Explorer and Settler-Invader Amnesia

and the Spectral Native -- 1 Coyote's Children and the Canadian Gothic: Sheila Watson's The Double Hook and Gail Anderson-Dargatz's The Cure for Death by Lightning -- 2 Dispossession and the Rule of Primogeniture in John Steffler's The Afterlife of George Cartwright -- Part two Transnational Haunting: The Ghosts of the Diaspora -- 3 Jane Urquhart's Away: Magic Realism and the Ghosts of Celticism -- 4 'Cloth Flowers That Bleed': Haunting, Hysteria, and Diaspora in Margaret Atwood's Alias Grace -- 5 'The spirits call she and make their display in she': The Trope of Possession in the Work of Dionne Brand -- Part three and Repair Ghosts and the Cycle of Reparation -- 6 Ghost Play: The Use of Transitional Phenomena in Thomas King's Truth and

Bright Water -- Conclusion: Toward an Ethics of Haunting.

Sommario/riassunto Much of Canada's contemporary fiction displays an eerie fascination

with the supernatural. In DisPossession, Marlene Goldman investigates

the links between spectral motifs and the social and historical

influences that have shaped Canada. Incorporating both psychoanalytic and non-traditional methods of literary analysis, Goldman explores the ways in which spectral fictions are an expression of definitive Canadian

experiences such as the clashes between invading settler and

indigenous populations, the losses incurred by immigration and diaspora, and the alienation of the female body. In so doing, Goldman unearths some of the "ghosts" of Canadian society itself - old tensions and injustices that continue to haunt ethnic and gender relations. An important contribution to the discussion of the challenges posed by the Gothic to dominant literary, political, and social narratives, DisPossession asserts that Canadian spectral fictions have the power to alter accepted versions of Canadian history by invoking and troubling the process of generating collective memories.