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-- A Serious Reading of Biotechnology in Japanese Graphic Novels: Weak Thoughts Regarding Ethics, Literature and Medicine / Cheung, Paul -- Fulfilling Personhood at the Margins of Life: Anna Quindlen's One True Thing / Apostoli, Laura -- "So what is a human being?" An Exploration of Personhood Through Jeanette Winterson's The Stone Gods / Adami, Valentina -- The Problem of Liminal Beings in Alasdair Gray's Poor Things / Fiorato, Sidia -- "Murderous Creators": How Far Can Authors Go? / Logaldo, Mara -- Fay Weldon's The Lives and Loves of a She Devil: Cosmetic Surgery as a Social Mask of Personhood / Battisti, Chiara -- Appendix -- Mapping the Law - reading old maps of Strasbourg as representing and constituting legal spaces and places / Dahlberg, Leif

Sommario/riassunto

In recent years, the well-established field of human anthropology has been put under scrutiny by the new data offered by science and technology. Scientific intervention into human life through organ transplants, euthanasia, genetic engineering, experiments connected to the genetic code and the genome, and varied other biotechnologies have placed ethical beliefs into question and created ethical dilemmas. These scientific inventions influence our views on birth and death, on the construction of the body and its technical reproducibility, and have problematized the concept of the human persona. The purpose of bioethics, the science of life, is to find new values and norms which will be valid for a multicultural society. Bioethics is, today, a well-respected topic of research that has brought together philosophers and experts to discuss the limits of science and medicine. The aim of this book is to merge the two fields of bioethics and law (or biolaw) through the literary text, by taking into consideration the transformations of the concept of persona at which we have nowadays arrived. The new meaning of the term 'persona' represents in fact the final point of a long-standing quest for man's sense of his own being and human dignity, and of his capacity to live in social interrelations. The volume presents a wide range of perspectives, comprising methodological approaches, legal and literary aspects.