

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910789120303321
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Titolo	Ecocriticism and the idea of culture : biology and the bildungsroman / / Helena Feder
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London ; ; New York : , : Routledge, , 2016
ISBN	1-317-14641-7 1-317-14640-9 1-315-57864-6 1-4094-0158-8
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (188 p.)
Disciplina	809.3/9353
Soggetti	Bildungsromans - History and criticism Ecology in literature Nature in literature
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	First published 2014 by Ashgate Publishing.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Cover; Contents; Acknowledgements; 1 Introduction: Biology and the Idea of Culture; 2 Candide and the Dialectic of Enlightenment; 3 Ecocriticism and the Production of Monstrosity in Frankenstein; 4 Placing Modernity in Orlando; 5 Consuming Culture in A Small Place and Among Flowers; 6 Conclusion: Dehumanization, Animality, and the Bildungsroman; Bibliography; Index
Sommario/riassunto	Arguing that the Bildungsroman is humanist culture's own origin story, Feder draws on the work of biologists in her examination of works by Voltaire, Mary Shelley, Virginia Woolf and Jamaica Kincaid. She dramatizes Western culture's own awareness of the instability of the binary of nature and culture, making a timely intervention in the ongoing culture-nature debate, bridging the gap between cultural theory and biologically grounded research.