Record Nr. UNINA9910790433103321 Autore Draaisma D Titolo The nostalgia factory: memory, time and ageing / / by Douwe Draaisma; translated by Liz Waters Pubbl/distr/stampa New Haven: .: Yale University Press. . [2013] ©2013 **ISBN** 0-300-20539-2 0-300-19852-3 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (176 p.) Altri autori (Persone) WatersLiz Disciplina 155.67/1312 Soggetti Reminiscing in old age Reminiscing Autobiographical memory Memory - Age factors Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Translation of the author's De heimweefabriek: geheugen, tijd & ouderdom. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Front matter -- Contents -- Preface -- CHAPTER ONE. The longest stage -- CHAPTER TWO. Forgetful -- CHAPTER THREE. The forgetfulness market -- CHAPTER FOUR. Reminiscences -- CHAPTER FIVE. The joy of calling up memories -- CHAPTER SIX. The good son: A conversation with Oliver Sacks -- CHAPTER SEVEN. Wisdom in hindsight -- CHAPTER EIGHT. The nostalgia factory -- Notes --Acknowledgments -- Index You cannot call to mind the name of a man you have known for 30 Sommario/riassunto years. You walk into a room and forget what you came for. What is the name of that famous film you've watched so many times? These are common experiences, and as we grow older we tend to worry about these lapses. Is our memory failing? Is it dementia? Douwe Draaisma, a renowned memory specialist, here focuses on memory in later life. Writing with eloquence and humor, he explains neurological phenomena without becoming lost in specialist terminology. His book

is reminiscent of Oliver Sacks's work, and not coincidentally this volume includes a long interview with Sacks, who speaks of his own

memory changes as he entered his sixties. Draaisma moves smoothly from anecdote to research and back, weaving stories and science into a compelling description of the terrain of memory. He brings to light the "reminiscence effect," just one of the unexpected pleasures of an aging memory. The author writes reassuringly about forgetfulness and satisfyingly dismantles the stubborn myth that mental gymnastics can improve memory. He presents a convincing case in favor of the aging mind and urges us to value the nostalgia that survives as recollection, appreciate the intangible nature of past events, and take pleasure in the consolation of razor-sharp reminiscing.