

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910790818703321
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Titolo	How everyone became depressed : the rise and fall of the nervous breakdown / / Edward Shorter
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Oxford, [England] ; ; New York, [New York] : , : Oxford University Press, , 2013 ©2013
ISBN	0-19-997825-5 0-19-756330-9 0-19-994809-7
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (x, 256 pages)
Collana	Oxford scholarship online
Disciplina	616.85/27
Soggetti	Depression, Mental Stress (Psychology)
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Previously issued in print: 2013.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Nerves as a problem -- Rise of nervous illness -- Fatigue -- Anxiety -- Melancholia -- Nervous breakdown -- Paradigm shift -- Something wrong with the label -- Drugs -- Return of the two depressions -- Nerves redux.
Sommario/riassunto	In this work, Edward Shorter, a professor of psychiatry & the history of medicine argues for a return to the old fashioned concept of nervous illness. These are, he writes, diseases of the entire body, not the mind, & as was recognized as early as the 1600s. Shorter traces the evolution of the concept of 'nerves' & the 'nervous breakdown' in western medical thought. He points to a great paradigm shift in the first third of the 20th century that transferred behavioural disorders from neurology to psychiatry, spotlighting the mind, not the body. The catch-all term 'depression' now applies to virtually everything, 'a jumble of non-disease entities, created by political infighting within psychiatry, by competitive struggles in the pharmaceutical industry, and by the whimsy of the regulators.' Depression is a & very serious illness - it should not be diagnosed without regard to the rest of the body.

