1. Record Nr. UNINA9910791334003321 Autore Emmons Kimberly <1972-> Titolo Black dogs and blue words [[electronic resource]]: depression and gender in the age of self-care / / Kimberly K. Emmons New Brunswick, NJ,: Rutgers University Press, c2010 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-282-56243-6 9786612562433 0-8135-4922-1 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (228 p.) Disciplina 616.85/270082 Soggetti Depression in women Mental illness in mass media Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Frontmatter -- Contents -- List of Illustrations and Tables --Acknowledgments -- Introduction: Depression and Gender in the Age of Self-Care -- 1. Depression, a Rhetorical Illness -- 2. Articulate Depression: The Discursive Legacy of Biological Psychiatry -- 3. Strategic Imprecision and the Self-Doctoring Drive -- 4. Isolating Words: Metaphors That Shape Depression's Identities -- 5. Telling Stories of Depression: Models for the Gendered Self -- 6. Diagnostic Genres and the Reconfiguring of Medical Expertise -- Conclusion: Toward a Rhetorical Care of the Self -- Notes -- Index -- About the Author Sommario/riassunto His "black dog"--that was how Winston Churchill referred to his own depression. Today, individuals with feelings of sadness and irritability are encouraged to "talk to your doctor." These have become buzz words in the aggressive promotion of wonder-drug cures since 1997, when the Food and Drug Administration changed its guidelines for the marketing of prescription pharmaceuticals. Black Dogs and Blue Words analyzes the rhetoric surrounding depression. Kimberly K. Emmons

maintains that the techniques and language of depression marketing strategies--vague words such as "worry," "irritability," and "loss of interest"--target women and young girls and encourage self-diagnosis

and self-medication. Further, depression narratives and other texts encode a series of gendered messages about health and illness. As depression and other forms of mental illness move from the medical-professional sphere into that of the consumer-public, the boundary at which distress becomes disease grows ever more encompassing, the need for remediation and treatment increasingly warranted. Black Dogs and Blue Words demonstrates the need for rhetorical reading strategies as one response to these expanding and gendered illness definitions.