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Titolo	Exceptional bodies in early modern culture : concepts of monstrosity before the advent of the normal // edited by Maja Bondestam
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Amsterdam : , : Amsterdam University Press, , [2020] ©2020
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (201 pages) : : color illustrations
Collana	Monsters & marvels
Disciplina	301.4
Soggetti	Abnormalities, Human - Social aspects
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Includes index.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction / Maja Bondestam -- The moresca dance in Counter-Reformation Rome : court medicine and the moderation of exceptional bodies / Maria Kavvadia -- Monsters and the maternal imagination : the 'First Vision' from Johann Remmelin's 1619 Catoptrum microcosmicum Triptych / Rosemary Moore -- The optics of bodily deviance : Juan Ruiz de Alarcon's path to public office / Pablo Garcia Pinar -- 'The most deformed woman in France' : Marguerite de Valois's monstrous sexuality in the Divorce satyrique / Cecile Tresfels -- Curious, useful and important : Bayle's 'hermaphrodites' as figures of theological inquiry / Parker Cotton -- An education : Johannes Schefferus and the prodigious son of a fisherman / Maja Bondestam -- Ambiguous and transitional bodies : stillbirth in Stockholm, 1691-1724 / Tove Paulsson Holmberg -- Afterword / Kathleen Long.
Sommario/riassunto	Drawing on a rich array of textual and visual primary sources, including medicine, satires, play scripts, dictionaries, natural philosophy, and texts on collecting wonders, this book provides a fresh perspective on monstrosity in early modern European culture. The essays explore how exceptional bodies challenged social, religious, sexual and natural structures and hierarchies in the sixteenth, seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries and contributed to its knowledge, moral and emotional repertoire. Prodigious births, maternal imagination, hermaphrodites, collections of extraordinary things, powerful women, disabilities, controversial exercise, shapeshifting phenomena and

hybrids are examined in a period before all varieties and differences became normalized to a homogenous standard. The historicizing of exceptional bodies is central in the volume since it expands our understanding of early modern culture and deepens our knowledge of its specific ways of conceptualizing singularities, rare examples, paradoxes, rules and conventions in nature and society.
