Record Nr. Autore Titolo Pubbl/distr/stampa	UNINA9910806292203321 Ferguson Christine Determined spirits : eugenics, heredity and racial regeneration in Anglo-American spiritualist writing, 1848-1930 / / Christine Ferguson Edinburgh, : Edinburgh University Press, c2012
ISBN	0-7486-5066-0
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (241 p.)
Collana	Edinburgh critical studies in Victorian culture
Disciplina	133.9094109034 800 942.08
Soggetti	Spiritualism - Great Britain - History - 19th century Spiritualism - Great Britain - History - 20th century Spiritualism - United States - History - 19th century Spiritualism - United States - History - 20th century Literature and spiritualism - Great Britain - History - 19th century Literature and spiritualism - Great Britain - History - 20th century Literature and spiritualism - United States - History - 19th century Literature and spiritualism - United States - History - 20th century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Cover; Copyright; Contents; Illustrations; Series Editor's Preface; Acknowledgements; Introduction; Chapter 1 Radical Determinism and the Natural History of the Medium; Chapter 2 Spirits in Mind: Madness, Idiocy and the Cultural Capital of Ignorance; Chapter 3 Eugenic Summerlands: Sexual Reproduction and Family Engineering in the Spheres; Chapter 4 Blended Souls: Paschal Beverly Randolph and Occult Miscegenation; Chapter 5 Criminal Man and Recidivist Spirit: Spiritualism, Criminal Anthropology and Thanato-Rehabilitationism Chapter 6 Dead Letters: Bioaesthetics and the New Realism in Fin-de- Siecle SpiritualismConclusion; Bibliography; Index
Sommario/riassunto	Examines the Spiritualist movement's role in disseminating eugenic and hard hereditarian thought.Studying transatlantic spiritualist literature from the mid-19th to the early 20th century, Christine Ferguson

focuses on its incorporation and dissemination of bio-determinist and eugenic thought. She asks why ideas about rational reproduction, hereditary determinism and race improvement became so important to spiritualist novelists, journalists and biographers in this period. She also examines how these concerns drove emerging Spiritualist understandings of disability, intelligence, crime, concep