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| Autore | Silver Anna Krugovoy |
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| Descrizione fisica | 1 online resource (x, 220 pages) : digital, PDF file(s) |
| Collana | Cambridge studies in nineteenth-century literature and culture ; ; 36 |
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| Soggetti | English literature - 19th century - History and criticism Anorexia nervosa in literature Women and literature - Great Britain - History - 19th century Eating disorders in literature Human body in literature Body image in literature Sex role in literature Appetite in literature Hunger in literature Women in literature |
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| Nota di bibliografia | Includes bibliographical references (p. 179-216) and index. |
| Nota di contenuto | Waisted women: reading Victorian slenderness -- Appetite in Victorian children's literature -- Hunger and repression in Shirley and Villette -- Vampirism and the anorexic paradigm -- Christina Rossetti's sacred hunger -- Conclusion: the politics of thinness. |
| Sommario/riassunto | Anna Krugovoy Silver examines the ways nineteenth-century British |

writers used physical states of the female body - hunger, appetite, fat and slenderness - in the creation of female characters. Silver argues that anorexia nervosa, first diagnosed in 1873, serves as a paradigm for the cultural ideal of middle-class womanhood in Victorian Britain. In addition, Silver relates these literary expressions to the representation of women's bodies in the conduct books, beauty manuals and other non-fiction prose of the period, contending that women 'performed' their gender and class alliances through the slender body. Silver discusses a wide range of writers including Charlotte Bronte, Christina Rossetti, Charles Dickens, Alfred Lord Tennyson, Bram Stoker and Lewis Carroll to show that mainstream models of middle-class Victorian womanhood share important qualities with the beliefs or behaviours of the anorexic girl or woman.
