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Autore	Rosenblum, Robert
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2. Record Nr.	UNINA9910809665103321
Autore	Wright Erika <1970->
Titolo	Reading for health : medical narratives and the nineteenth-century novel // Erika Wright
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Nota di bibliografia

Includes bibliographical references and index.

Nota di contenuto

Introduction: becoming patient readers -- pt. 1. Domestication -- Jane Austen's plots of prevention -- Health, identity, and narrative authority in Jane Eyre -- pt. 2. Isolation -- Quarantine, social theory, and Little Dorrit -- The omniscience of invalidism: The case of Harriet Martineau -- pt. 3. Professionalization -- Narrative competence and the family doctor in Gaskell's Wives and daughters -- Afterword: health in narrative medicine.

Sommario/riassunto

In *Reading for Health*, Erika Wright argues that the emphasis in Victorian studies on disease as the primary source of narrative conflict has obscured the complex reading practices that emerge around the concept of health. By shifting attention to the ways that prevention of illness and the preservation of well-being operate in fiction, Wright offers a new approach to reading character and voice, order and temporality, setting and metaphor. As Wright reveals, while canonical works by Austen, Brontë, Dickens, Martineau, and Gaskell register the pervasiveness of a conventional "therapeutic" form of action and mode of reading, they demonstrate as well a powerful investment in the achievement and maintenance of "health," both in personal and domestic-conduct and in the social interaction of the individual within the community.