1. Record Nr. UNINA9910810252903321 Autore Brooks Peter <1938-> **Titolo** Enigmas of identity [[electronic resource] /] / Peter Brooks Princeton,: Princeton University Press, 2011 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-283-22744-4 9786613227447 1-4008-3969-6 Edizione [Course Book] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (235 p.) 305 Disciplina Soggetti Group identity Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Marks of identity -- Egotisms -- The "outcast of the universe"? --Discovering the self in self-pleasuring -- "Inevitable discovery": searches, narrative, identity -- The derealization of self -- The madness of art -- Epilogue: the identity paradigm. "We know that it matters crucially to be able to say who we are, why we Sommario/riassunto are here, and where we are going," Peter Brooks writes in Enigmas of Identity. Many of us are also uncomfortably aware that we cannot provide a convincing account of our identity to others or even ourselves. Despite or because of that failure, we keep searching for identity, making it up, trying to authenticate it, and inventing excuses for our unpersuasive stories about it. This wide-ranging book draws on literature, law, and psychoanalysis to examine important aspects of the emergence of identity as a peculiarly modern preoccupation. In particular, the book addresses the social, legal, and personal anxieties provoked by the rise of individualism and selfhood in modern culture. Paying special attention to Rousseau, Freud, and Proust, Brooks also looks at the intersection of individual life stories with the law, and considers the creation of an introspective project that culminates in psychoanalysis. Elegant and provocative, Enigmas of Identity offers new

insights into the questions and clues about who we think we are.