

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910810329003321
Autore	Peacock James <1970->
Titolo	Jonathan Lethem // James Peacock
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Manchester, UK : , : Manchester University Press, , 2013 ©2012
ISBN	1-78170-629-8 1-84779-465-3
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (200 pages) : digital file(s)
Collana	Contemporary American and Canadian writers
Disciplina	813.54
Soggetti	Literature Literary Studies: Fiction, Novelists & Prose Writers LITERARY COLLECTIONS / American / General Anthologies: general Criticism, interpretation, etc. Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Available through ManchesterHive. MUP 2020 titles.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Series editor's foreword -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction: Genre collisions and mutations -- 1. Private dicks: science fiction meets detection in Gun, With Occasional Music -- 2. The nightmare of the local: apocalypse on the road in Amnesia Moon -- 3. Alice in the academy: As She Climbed Across the Table -- 4. Far away, so close: Brooklyn goes to space in Girl in Landscape -- 5. 'We learned to tell our story walking': Tourette's and urban space in Motherless Brooklyn -- 6. Mixed media: graffiti, writing and coming-of-age in The Fortress of Solitude -- 7. 'Hiding in plain sight': reality and secrecy in You Don't Love Me Yet and Chronic City -- Conclusion -- Bibliography -- Index.
Sommario/riassunto	Jonathan Lethem is the first full-length study dedicated to the work of an exciting, genre-busting contemporary writer with an increasingly high profile in American literature. Examining all of Lethem's novels, as well as a number of his short fictions, essays and critical works, this study shows how the author's prolific output, his restlessness and his

desire always to be subverting literary forms and genres, are consistent with his interest in subcultural identities. The human need to break off into small groupings, subcultures or miniature utopias is mirrored in the critical tendency to enforce generic boundaries. To break down the boundaries between genres, then, is partly to make a nonsense of critical distinctions between 'high' and 'low' literature, and partly to reflect the wider need to recognise difference, to appreciate that other people, no matter how outlandish and alien they may appear, share similar desires, experiences and problems. With this in mind, James Peacock argues that Lethem's experiments with genre are not merely games or elaborate literary jokes, but ethical necessities, particularly when viewed in the light of the losses and traumas that shadow all of his writing. Jonathan Lethem, therefore, makes an important contribution not just to Lethem studies, but also to debates about genre and its position in postmodern or 'post-postmodern' literature. It will be of interest to all scholars and students of contemporary American writing, as well as those interested in genre fiction and literature's relationship with subcultures.
