1. Record Nr. UNINA9910810759503321

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Titolo Dying in character: memoirs on the end of life // Jeffrey Berman

Amherst, [Massachusetts];; Boston, [Massachusetts]:,: University of Pubbl/distr/stampa

Massachusetts Press., 2012

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**ISBN** 1-61376-215-1

Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (336 p.)

Disciplina 810.9/3548

Soggetti Authors, American - History and criticism

American prose literature - 20th century - History and criticism

Critically ill - United States - History and criticism Terminally ill - United States - History and criticism

Autobiography Death in literature Self in literature

Death - Psychological aspects

Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese

**Formato** Materiale a stampa

Livello bibliografico Monografia

Description based upon print version of record. Note generali

Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia

Nota di contenuto Introduction: "It is when faced with death that we turn most bookish" --

> "I never saw or heard the car coming": my close call with death --"Death itself is a wonderful and positive experience": Elisabeth Kubler-Ross and The wheel of life -- "With autobiography there's always another text, a countertext": Philip Roth and Patrimony -- "Death confers a certain beauty on one's hours": Harold Brodkey and This wild darkness -- "I have never been tempted to write about my own life":

Susan Sontag, David Rieff, and Swimming in a sea of death --

"Sleeplessness for me is a cherished state": Edward W. Said and Out of place -- "There is more than one sort of luck": Tony Judt and The memory chalet -- "I never realized dying could be so much fun": Art Buchwald and Too soon to say goodbye -- "Learn how to live, and you'll know how to die": Morrie Schwartz's Letting go and Mitch Albom's Tuesdays with Morrie -- "I'm dying and I'm having fun": Randy Pausch

and The last lecture -- "Now I cultivate the art of simmering

memories": Jean-Dominique Bauby and The diving bell and The butterfly -- "I live in my suffering and that makes me happy": Roland Barthes and Mourning diary -- Conclusion: "alive when I died".