1. Record Nr. UNINA9910818272303321 Autore Rodden John **Titolo** Every intellectual's big brother: George Orwell's literary siblings // John Rodden Pubbl/distr/stampa Austin, : University of Texas Press, 2006 **ISBN** 0-292-79545-9 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (280 p.) Collana Literary modernism series Disciplina 828/.91209 Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph Note generali Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references (p. [245]-248) and index. Nota di contenuto Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Prologue: "Orwell" Still Lives -- Introduction: George Orwell and His Intellectual Progeny -- PART ONE. Their Orwell, Left and Right -- CHAPTER ONE: "Not One of Us?" Orwell and the London Left of the 1930s and '40s -- CHAPTER TWO: "A Moral Genius": Orwell and the Movement Writers of the 1950s -- CHAPTER THREE: "London Letter" from a Family Cousin: The New York Intellectuals' Adoption of Orwell -- CHAPTER FOUR: "A Leftist by Accident?" Orwell and the American Cultural Conservatives -- CHAPTER FIVE: Does Orwell Matter? Between Fraternity and Fratricide at the Nation -- PART TWO. Orwell's Literary Siblings Today -- CHAPTER SIX: Iraq, the Internet, and "the Big O" in 2003: A Centennial Report --CHAPTER SEVEN: The Man within the Writings -- CHAPTER EIGHT: Unlessons from My Intellectual Big Brother -- Epilogue: On the Ethics of Literary Reputation -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index Sommario/riassunto George Orwell has been embraced, adopted, and co-opted by everyone from the far left to the neoconservatives. Each succeeding generation of Anglo-American intellectuals has felt compelled to engage the life. work, and cultural afterlife of Orwell, who is considered by many to have been the foremost political writer of the twentieth century. Every Intellectual's Big Brother explores the ways in which numerous disparate groups, Orwell's intellectual "siblings," have adapted their views of Orwell to fit their own agendas and how in doing so they have changed our perceptions of Orwell himself. By examining the politics of

literary reception as a dimension of cultural history, John Rodden gives

us a better understanding of Orwell's unique and enduring role in Anglo-American intellectual life. In Part One, Rodden opens the book with a section titled "Their Orwell, Left and Right," which focuses on Orwell's reception by several important literary circles of the latter half of the twentieth century. Beginning with Orwell's own contemporaries, Rodden addresses the ways various intellectual groups of the 1950s responded to Orwell. Rodden then moves on in Part Two to what he calls the "Orwell Confraternity Today," those contemporary intellectuals who have, in various ways, identified themselves with or reacted against Orwell. The author concludes by examining how Orwell's status as an object of admiration and detraction has complicated the way in which he has been perceived by readers since his death.