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Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Personhood beyond personality -- Novel interests : Henry James -- Lively habits : Gertrude Stein -- Intoning voice : T.S. Eliot -- Afterword : vital signs.
Sommario/riassunto	""Characters"" are those fictive beings in novels whose coherent patterns of behavior make them credible as people. ""Character"" is also used to refer to the capacity-or incapacity-of individuals to sustain core principles. When characters are inconsistent, they risk coming across as dangerous or immoral, not to mention unconvincing. But what is behind our culture's esteem for unwavering consistency? Out of Character examines literary characters who defy our culture's models of personal integrity. It argues that modernist writers Henry James, Gertrude Stein, and T. S. Eliot drew i