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Autore	Weis Rene
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Chapter 19 la dame aux camelias, by Alexandre Dumas fils : 1848Chapter 20 la dame aux camelias at the Vaudeville: February 1852; Chapter 21 Verdi and the Barezzis-the genesis of la traviata: 1823-1852; Chapter 22 la traviata 1853-4: the apotheosis of Marie Duplessis; Chapter 23 Epilogue: memory and myth; A bibliographical note; References; 1. Archives; 2. Newspapers; 3. Books and Articles; Picture credits; Index

Sommario/riassunto

The Real Traviata is the rags-to-riches story of a tragic young woman whose life inspired one of the most famous operas of all time, Verdi's masterpiece *La traviata*, as well as one of the most scandalous and successful French novels of the nineteenth century, *La Dame aux Camelias*, by Alexandre Dumas fils. The woman at the centre of the story, Marie Duplessis, escaped from her life as an abused teenage girl in provincial Normandy, rising in an amazingly short space of time to the apex of fashionable life in nineteenth century Paris, where she was considered the queen of the Parisian courtesans.
