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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [197]-205) and index.
Nota di contenuto	From sympathy to altruism : the roots of philanthropic discourse -- Dickensian realism and telescopic philanthropy -- Hawthorne's "cold fancy" and the revision of sympathetic exchange -- Altruism's conquest of modern generalisation in George Eliot -- William Dean Howells's "altrurian" aesthetic in the modern marketplace.
Sommario/riassunto	Explores the relationship between philanthropy and literary realism in novels by Charles Dickens Nathaniel Hawthorne George Eliot and William Dean Howells and examines how each used the figure of philanthropy both to redefine the sentiments that informed social identity and to refashion their own aesthetic practices.