

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910825460203321
Autore	Furst Lilian R
Titolo	Idioms of distress : psychosomatic disorders in medical and imaginative literature // Lilian R. Furst
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Albany, : State University of New York Press, c2003
ISBN	0-7914-8759-8 1-4175-2021-3
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (240 p.)
Disciplina	616.08
Soggetti	Medicine, Psychosomatic Literature and mental illness Imagination in literature Diseases in literature
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 211-220) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front Matter -- Contents -- Preface -- Hiding and Seeking Distress -- Speaking through the Body -- Swings of the Historical Pendulum -- The Mysterious Leap -- Literary Patients -- Metaphors of Distress -- "A Strange Sympathy betwixt Soul and Body" -- Nerves: At the Interstices of Physiology and Psychology -- "A Sick Spot on the Body of the Family" -- "Legs Turned to Butter" -- Substance and Shadow -- Shell Shock -- Outing the Distress -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	This interdisciplinary study examines the enigmatic category of psychosomatic disorders as articulated in medical writings and represented in literary works of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Six key works are analyzed: Hawthorne's <i>The Scarlet Letter</i> , Émile Zola's <i>Thérèse Raquin</i> , Thomas Mann's <i>Buddenbrooks</i> , Arthur Miller's <i>Broken Glass</i> , Brian O'Doherty's <i>The Strange Case of Mademoiselle P.</i> , and Pat Barker's <i>Regeneration</i> . Each is a case study in detection as the hidden sources of bodily ills are uncovered in intra- or interpersonal conflicts such as guilt, family tensions, and marital discord. The book fosters a better understanding of these puzzling disorders by revealing how they function simultaneously as masks and as manifestations of inner suffering.

