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Nota di contenuto	PROMISES AND LIMITS OF REDUCTIONISM IN THE BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES; Contents; Preface; Contributors; About the Editors; 1 Introduction; 2 Emergent Properties of Biological Molecules and Cells; 3 From Nineteenth Century Ideas on Reduction in Physiology to Non-Reductive Explanations in Twentieth-Century Biochemistry; 4 Pitfalls of Reductionism in Immunology; 5 Reductionism in Medicine: Social Aspects of Health; Questions and Discussion; 6 'Who's Afraid of Reductionism?' 'I Am!'; Questions and Discussion; Round Table Discussion 1: Chair - Alex Rosenberg; 7 Reductionism in an Historical Science Questions and Discussion 8 Varieties of Reductionism: Derivation and

Gene Selection; Questions and Discussion; 9 The Gene: Between Holism and Generalism; Questions and Discussion; 10 Genes versus Molecules: How To, and How Not To, Be a Reductionist; Questions and Discussion; 11 Limits of Reproduction: A Reductionistic Research Strategy in Evolutionary Biology; Questions and Discussion; 12 Evolutionary Psychology: A Case Study in the Poverty of Genetic Determinism; Questions and Discussion; Round Table Discussion 2: Chair - Marc H. V. Van Regenmortel
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Sommario/riassunto

Reductionism as a scientific methodology has been extraordinarily successful in biology. However, recent developments in molecular biology have shown that reductionism is seriously inadequate in dealing with the mind-boggling complexity of integrated biological systems. This title presents an appropriate balance between science and philosophy and covers traditional philosophical treatments of reductionism as well as the benefits and shortcomings of reductionism in particular areas of science. Discussing the issue of reductionism in the practice of medicine it takes into account the holis
