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Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Artificial slaves: intelligent tools/ rebellious agents -- Real human automata from the pre-empirical era -- Whole bodies: alchemy, cabala, and the embodiment of force -- Body parts: talking brass heads, dangerous knowledge, and Robert Greene's plays -- Prospero's ethereal prosthesis -- Doctor Faustus: losing control of the servant network -- Points of contact between artificial servants of yesterday and today.
Sommario/riassunto	This book explores the creation and use of artificially made humanoid servants and servant networks by fictional and non-fictional scientists of the early modern period. Beginning with an investigation of the roots of artificial servants, humanoids, and automata from earlier times, LaGrandeur traces how these literary representations coincide with a surging interest in automata and experimentation, and how they blend with the magical science that preceded the empirical era. In the instances that this book considers, the idea of the artificial factotum is connected with an emotional paradox:

