Record Nr. UNINA9910974499403321 Autore Harzewski Stephanie <1974-> Titolo Chick lit and postfeminism / / Stephanie Harzewski Pubbl/distr/stampa Charlottesville, : University of Virginia Press, 2011 **ISBN** 0-8139-3075-8 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (xii, 247 p.): ill.; Collana Cultural frames, framing culture 813/.6099287 Disciplina American fiction - Women authors - History and criticism Soggetti English fiction - Women authors - History and criticism Chick lit - History and criticism Women - Books and reading Single women in literature Consumption (Economics) in literature Man-woman relationships in literature Popular culture in literature Social values in literature Feminist theory Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph Note generali Includes bibliographical references (p. 213-233) and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Introduction: heels over Hemingway -- Postmodernism's last romance -- Bridget Jones's diary and the production of a popular Austen -- Sex and the city and the New York novel -- The legacy of working-girl fiction -- Theorizing postfeminist fictions of development -- Epilogue. Sommario/riassunto Originally a euphemism for Princeton University's Female Literary Tradition course in the 1980s, "chick lit" mutated from a movement in American women's avant-garde fiction in the 1990s to become, by the turn of the century, a humorous subset of women's literature, journalism, and advice manuals. Stephanie Harzewski examines such best sellers as Bridget Jones's Diary The Devil Wears Prada, and Sex and the City as urban appropriations of and departures from the narrative traditions of the novel of manners, the popular romance, and the bildungsroman. Further, Harzewski uses chick lit as a lens through

which to view gender relations in U.S. and British society in the 1990s.

Chick Lit and Postfeminism is the first sustained historicization of this major pop-cultural phenomenon, and Harzewski successfully demonstrates how chick lit and the critical study of it yield social observations on upheavals in Anglo-American marriage and education patterns, heterosexual rituals, feminism, and postmodern values.