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Nota di contenuto	A Brief History of Death; Contents; List of plates (plates fall between pp. 88-89); Preface; 1 Journey Beyond; Gilgamesh; Adam and Eve; Death, Sin and Atonement; Resurrection-Transcendence; Release-Transcendence; Self-Transcendence; Hope and Faith; To Be or Not To Be; Traditional Futures; The Uneasy Species; Death Our Future; Autobiographical History of Death; Methods of Approach; Words Against Death; Myth Again; 2 Parting's Sweet Sorrow; Relationships, Death and Destiny; Family Bonds; Hell, Life and Work; Secular Ethics and Loss; Freud and Bowlby; Grief-Stages; Fixing the Unfixable HelplessnessAberbach and Charisma; World Religions; Identity and Religions; Identity's Demise and Death; Adulthood-Childhood, Maturity

and Death of Parents; Moral-Somatic Links; Spiritualism; Departure; 3 Removing the Dead; Souls; Status and Destiny; Ritual Change; Resurrection; Secular Trends; Changing Times; Default Religion; From Respect to Dignity; Death-Style and Belief; Cremated Remains; Space, Cryogenics and Computers; 4 Ecology, Death and Hope; Criminals, Heretics, Bodies and Belief; Dying at Home; Hospice; Symbolic Bodies; American Ways of Death; Ecology; Hope Springs Eternal; Forest Positive and Negative Dust Ethics and Spirituality at Large; Death's Paradigm Shift; Ecological Immortality; 5 Art, Literature and Music; Variety; Bible; Dante; Milton; Secular Strains; Art; Portraying the Dead; Religious Fusion; Hope; 6 Places of Memory; Myth; The Dynamics of Memorial Sites; Locating Hope: the Dynamics of Memorial Sites; Place and Hope; How to Speak of the Dead?; Location 1: Graveyard and Cemetery; Hope 1: Eternal, Eschatological Form of Identity; Location 2: Cremation and Remains; Hope 2: Internal, the Retrospective Fulfilment of Identity; Location 3: Woodland Burial Hope 3: Natural, the Ecological Fulfilment of Identity Memorial Texts; The National Memorial Arboretum; Lifestyle - Death-Style; 7 Fear of Death; A Mythical Form; Hinduism, Buddhism; Christianity; Albert Schweitzer and C. S. Lewis; Essential Fear; Plague; Modern Devastations; Philosophical Fears; Psychology and Fear of Death; Picasso; Fears Real and Imagined; Contemporary Fears; Imaginative Fears; Fear Abolished; 8 Purposeful and Useless Death; Power of Death; Warfare; Genocide; Violence at Heart; Disasters; Baby-Death; Suicide - Euthanasia; Offending Deaths; Illness and Death The Future of Death Christian Eternal Life; Death's Margins; Age and Death; Hopeless Non-Places; 2020 Time and Vision; The World's Death; Bibliography; Index

Sommario/riassunto

The act of death itself and the rituals surrounding it vary enormously and shed a fascinating light on the cultures of which they are a part. In this brief and lively history, Douglas Davies - internationally acknowledged as one of the leading experts in this field - tackles some of the most significant aspects of death and weaves them into a compelling story about our changing attitudes to dying. Offers a fascinating examination of this subject which is of enduring interest in every culture in the world Considers the profound influence death has had on subjects ranging from ph
