

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910149553003321
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Titolo	The Black Death [[electronic resource]]
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York, : Oldcastle Books, 2011
ISBN	1-903047-74-9
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (127 p.)
Disciplina	940.17
Soggetti	Black death Civilization, Medieval Plague -- History
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di contenuto	Cover; Title page; Contents; 1. King Death; 2. Mortal Pestilences and Other Calamities; 3. Here Death is Chalking Doors with Crosses; 4. Satan Triumphant; 5. The Year of the Annihilation; 6. The Pestilence Tyme; 7. The Triumph of Death; Appendix: Selective Chronology of Plague Outbreaks; Suggestions for Further Reading; Copyright
Sommario/riassunto	The Black Death is the name most commonly given to the pandemic of bubonic plague that ravaged the medieval world in the late 1340's. From Central Asia the plague swept through Europe, leaving millions of dead in its wake. Between a quarter and a third of Europe's population died. In England the population fell from nearly six million to just over three million. The Black Death was the greatest demographic disaster in European history. Sean Martin looks at the origins of the disease and traces its terrible march through Europe from the Italian cities to the far-flung corners of Scandinavia