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Autore	Wiggins Alison <1974->
Titolo	Bess of Hardwick's letters : language, materiality, and early modern epistolary culture / / by Alison Wiggins
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Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (256 pages, 16 unnumbered pages of plates) : illustrations, photographs
Collana	Material Readings in Early Modern Culture
Disciplina	826/.3
Soggetti	English letters - History and criticism Letter writing - England - History - 16th century Women and literature - England - History - 16th century England Social life and customs 16th century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	1. Composing and scripting letters -- 2. Reading and writing letters -- 3. Sending and receiving letters.
Sommario/riassunto	Bess of Hardwick's Letters is the first book-length study of the c. 250 letters to and from the remarkable Elizabethan dynast, matriarch and builder of houses Bess of Hardwick (c. 1527-1608). By surveying the complete correspondence, author Alison Wiggins uncovers the wide range of uses to which Bess put letters: they were vital to her engagement in the overlapping realms of politics, patronage, business, legal negotiation, news-gathering and domestic life. Much more than a case study of Bess's letters, the discussions of language, handwriting and materiality found here have fundamental implications for the way we approach and read Renaissance letters. Wiggins offers readings which show how Renaissance letters communicated meaning through the interweaving linguistic, palaeographic and material forms, according to socio-historical context and function. The study goes beyond the letters themselves and incorporates a range of historical

sources to situate circumstances of production and reception, which include Account Books, inventories, needlework and textile art and architecture. The study is therefore essential reading for scholars in historical linguistics, historical pragmatics, palaeography and manuscript studies, material culture, English literature and social history.
