

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910154591303321
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Titolo	Pseudo-Dionysius as polemicist : the development and purpose of the angelic hierarchy in sixth century Syria / / Rosemary A. Arthur
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London ; ; New York : , : Routledge, , 2016
ISBN	1-315-24575-2
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (226 pages)
Collana	Ashgate New Critical Thinking in Religion, Theology and Biblical Studies
Disciplina	230/.14092
Soggetti	Angels - Christianity Theology - History - Early church, ca. 30-600
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	"First published 2008 by Ashgate Publishing"--t.p. verso.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	1. Christian and non-Christian sources -- 2. The angelic hierarchy -- Jewish angelology -- 3. The unknowability of God -- 4. The monophysite connection -- 5. Summa or polemic? -- 6. Conclusion.
Sommario/riassunto	The anonymous theologian known as Pseudo-Dionysius, who was responsible for arranging the angelic hierarchy into nine orders, had a significant influence on mediaeval European mysticism. This book places him in his religious and political context in sixth century Syria, and uncovers the hidden agenda which lies behind his writings. New evidence is presented to establish the dating of the corpus more accurately than has been done before. Rather than analysing the minutiae of Dionysius' thought, Rosemary Arthur focuses on his sources for, and treatment of, the Angelic Hierarchy and the Dazzling Darkness, with a view to ascertaining his motive for writing, his relationship with his opponents and his need to hide his identity.