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Nota di contenuto	Spencer and Gillen in Durkheim : the theoretical construction of ethnography / Howard Morphy -- Did Lucien Levy-Bruhl answer the objections made in <i>Les formes elementaires</i> ? / Dominique Merllie -- Religion and science in The elementary forms / Robert Alun Jones -- The concept of belief in The elementary forms / Sue Stedman Jones -- Durkheim, Kant, the immortal soul and God / W. Watts Miller -- The cult of images : reading chapter VII, book II, of The elementary forms / Giovanni Paoletti -- Durkheim and sacred identity / Kenneth Thompson -- Rescuing Durkheim's 'rites' from the symbolizing anthropologists / Malcolm Ruel -- Durkheim's bourgeois theory of sacrifice / Ivan Strenski -- Memory and the sacred : the cult of anniversaries and commemorative rituals in the light of The elementary forms / Werner Gephart -- Effervescence, differentiation and representation in The elementary forms / William Ramp -- Effervescence and the origins of human society / N.J. Allen -- Change, innovation, creation : Durkheim's ambivalence / Denes Nemedi -- Durkheim on the causes and functions

of the categories / Warren Schmaus -- Durkheim and a priori truth : conformity as a philosophical problem / Terry F. Godlove, Jr.

Sommario/riassunto

This is the first collection of essays to be published on Durkheim's masterpiece *The elementary forms of religious life*. It represents the work of the most important international Durkheim scholars from the fields of anthropology, philosophy and sociology. The essays focus on key topics including: the method Durkheim adopted in his study, the role of ritual and belief in society, and the nature of contemporary religion. The contributors also explore cutting-edge debates about the notion of the soul and collective rituals.