

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910451620203321
Autore	Silver Mitchell
Titolo	A plausible God [[electronic resource]] : secular reflections on liberal Jewish theology / / Mitchell Silver
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York, : Fordham University Press, 2006
ISBN	0-8232-3656-0 0-8232-4724-4 1-282-69844-3 9786612698446 0-8232-3851-2 0-8232-2683-2 1-4294-7913-2
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (203 p.)
Disciplina	296.3/11
Soggetti	God (Judaism) Judaism - Doctrines Liberalism (Religion) Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- CONTENTS -- ACKNOWLEDGMENTS -- PREFACE -- 1. THE NEW GOD'S RELEVANCE -- 2. A FIRST PASSAT DEFINING "GOD": THE ALLAND THE ONE -- 3. A SECOND PASS: GOD AS THE POTENTIAL FOR GOODNESS -- 4. THE USES OF BELIEF IN GOD -- 5. THE USEFULNESS OF A PLAUSIBLE GOD -- 6. SOMEONE TO WATCH OVER ME -- 7. TALKING TO AND ABOUT GOD -- 8. AVOIDING IDOLATRY -- 9. A MATTER OF TASTE -- 10. TRUTH AND BEAUTY -- APPENDIX A. THE INEFFABLE -- APPENDIX B. THE UNTENABLE GOD -- APPENDIX C. THEORIES OF TRUTH AND CREDIBILITY -- NOTES -- REFERENCES -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	At least since the seventeenth century, the traditional God of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam has been under pressure to conform to the scientific worldview. Across the monotheistic traditions there has

emerged a “liberal” conception of God compatible with a thoroughgoing naturalism. For many, this liberal “new” God is the only credible God. But is it a useful God? Does belief in so malleable a deity come from, or lead to, different political, moral, psychological, or aesthetic phenomena from atheism? *A Plausible God* evaluates the new God by analyzing the theology of three recent Jewish thinkers — Mordechai Kaplan, Michael Lerner, and Arthur Green—and compares faith in the new God to disbelief in any gods. Mitchell Silver reveals what is at stake in the choice between naturalistic liberal theology and a nontheistic naturalism without gods. Silver poses the question: “If it is to be either the new God or no God, what does—what should—determine the choice?” Although Jewish thinkers are used as the primary exemplars of new God theology, Silver explores developments in contemporary Christian thought, Eastern religious traditions, and “New Age” religion. *A Plausible God* constitutes a significant contribution to current discussions of the relationship between science and religion, as well as to discussions regarding the meaning of the idea of God itself in modern life.
