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Titolo	Inscribing devotion and death [[electronic resource]] : archaeological evidence for Jewish populations of North Africa / / by Karen B. Stern
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Collana	Religions in the Graeco-Roman world, , 0927-7633 ; ; v. 161
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Soggetti	Jews - Africa, North - History - To 1500 Jewish sepulchral monuments - Africa, North Tombs - Africa, North Death - Religious aspects - Judaism Judaism - Africa, North - History - To 1500 Judaism - History - Post-exilic period, 586 B.C.-210 A.D Electronic books. Africa, North Antiquities, Roman Africa, North Ethnic relations
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
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Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [315]-334) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Toward a cultural history of Jewish populations in Roman North Africa -- Locating Jews in a North African world -- Naming like the neighbors: Jewish onomastic practices in Roman North Africa -- Inscribing the dead to describe the living: reading Jewish identity through funerary language -- Questioning "Jewishness" in the North African synagogue: Hammam Lif as a case study -- North African Jewish responses to death: choosing appropriate gods, neighbors, and houses in the afterlife.
Sommario/riassunto	Reliance on essentialist or syncretistic models of cultural dynamics has limited past evaluations of ancient Jewish populations. This reexamination of evidence for Jews of North Africa offers an alternative approach. Drawing from methods developed in cultural studies and

historical linguistics, this book replaces traditional categories used to examine evidence for early Jewish populations and demonstrates how direct comparison of Jewish material evidence with that of its neighbors allows for a reassessment of what the category of “Jewish” might have meant in different North African locations and periods and, by extension, elsewhere in the Mediterranean. The result is a transformed analysis of Jewish cultural identity that both emphasizes its indebtedness to larger regional contexts and allows for a more informed and complex understanding of Jewish cultural distinctiveness.
