Record Nr.	UNINA9910458535603321
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Titolo	Dark Matters : Exploring the Realm of Psychic Devastation / / Ira Brenner
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London : , : Taylor and Francis, , 2018
ISBN	0-429-89830-4
	0-367-10172-6
	0-429-47353-2
	1-78241-135-6
Edizione	[First edition.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (289 p.)
Discipling	616.8521
Disciplina	
Soggetti	Psychic trauma Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicaziona	
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	part, I Prologue chapter One Why dark matter? / Ira Brenner part, II Conceptual Realm chapter Two Splitting of the ego / Ira Brenner chapter Three On dissociation / Ira Brenner chapter Four Seeing and not seeing / Ira Brenner part, III Societal Realm chapter Five Intergenerational transmission / Ira Brenner chapter Six Playing and survival / Ira Brenner chapter Seven Geopolitical identity disorder / Ira Brenner chapter Eight Post-9/11 world / Ira Brenner part, IV Technical Realm chapter Nine Interpretation or containment? / Ira Brenner chapter Ten Handling the compulsion to repeat / Ira Brenner chapter Eleven Psychoactive therapy / Ira Brenner part, V Epilogue chapter Twelve From Darkness to light / Ira Brenner.
Sommario/riassunto	"This book takes a deeper look into the darker side of the human condition by examining the psyches of those who have been victims or survivors of heinous acts perpetrated by others. From the "personal Holocaust" of sexual abuse in the family, to the genocidal persecution during "the" Holocaust, and from the shared national horror of September 11 to the Palestinian/Israeli situation, a special model of the traumatized mind is evolved to further our understanding of such "dark matters".The traditional models of the mind fall short when dealing

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with extraordinary people under ordinary conditions as well as with ordinary people under extraordinary conditions. This metapsychology is organized around the defensive operations of repression or splitting. In the model proposed here, defensive altered states of consciousness, or dissociation seems more helpful. A historical perspective is offered, from Freud and Breuer, with their Studies on Hysteria, to current thinking about dissociative disorders. A developmental line of dissociation is also explored. Extensive case material is presented to illustrate the theoretical as well as technical challenges of working with the lapses of memory, unbearable affects, and countertransference demands upon the clinician."--Provided by publisher.