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Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- List Of Abbreviations -- Introduction -- Chapter 1. Hygra keleutha: The Paths of the Sea -- Chapter 2. Heroic Coming-of-Age and the Sea -- Chapter 3. The Floating Chest: Maidens, Marriage, and the Sea -- Chapter 4. Dolphin Riders Between Hades and Olympus -- Chapter 5. Leaps of Faith ? Diving into the Sea, Women, and Metamorphosis -- Chapter 6. Dionysus and the Sea -- Conclusion -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index -- Acknowledgments
Sommario/riassunto	The sea is omnipresent in Greek life. Visible from nearly everywhere, the sea represents the life and livelihood of many who dwell on the islands and coastal areas of the Mediterranean, and it has been so since long ago—the sea loomed large in the Homeric epics and throughout Greek mythology. The Greeks of antiquity turned to the sea for food and for transport; for war, commerce, and scientific advancement; and for religious purification and other rites. Yet, the sea was simultaneously the center of Greek life and its limit. For, while the sea

was a giver of much, it also embodied danger and uncertainty. It was in turns barren and fertile, and pictured as both a roadway and a terrifying void. The image of the sea in Greek myth is as conflicting as it is common, with sea crossings taking on seemingly incompatible meanings in different circumstances. In *The Sea in the Greek Imagination*, Marie-Claire Beaulieu unifies the multifarious representations of the sea and sea crossings in Greek myth and imagery by positing the sea as a cosmological boundary between the mortal world, the underworld, and the realms of the immortal. Through six in-depth case studies, she shows how, more than a simple physical boundary, the sea represented the buffer zone between the imaginary and the real, the transitional space between the worlds of the living, the dead, and the gods. From dolphin riders to Dionysus, maidens to mermen, Beaulieu investigates the role of the sea in Greek myth in a broad-ranging and innovative study.
