Record Nr. UNINA9910462245803321 Autore Harkins Angela Kim <1973-> Titolo Reading with an "I" to the heavens [[electronic resource]]: looking at the Qumran Hodayot through the lens of visionary traditions / / Angela Kim Harkins Boston,: De Gruyter, 2012 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-283-62752-3 9786613939975 3-11-025181-7 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (336 p.) Collana Ekstasis, religious experience from antiquity to the Middle Ages, 1865-8792;; v. 3 Disciplina 296.1/55 Soggetti Electronic books. Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Includes bibliographical references (p. [274]-301) and indexes. Nota di bibliografia Front matter -- Acknowledgments -- Contents -- Introduction --Nota di contenuto Chapter 1. Creating an Embodied Subjectivity for Religious Experience -- Chapter 2. The Imaginal Body as an Affective Script for Transformation -- Chapter 3. Progressive Spatialization: The Scripted Movement Out From Places of Punishment -- Chapter 4. The Thirdspace Terrain of the Hodayot: The Arousal of Fear and the Exegetical Generation of Texts -- Chapter 5. Paradise as a Place on the Threshold of the Heavens -- Conclusion -- Bibliography -- Subject Index -- Ancient Text Index -- Modern Author Index Sommario/riassunto This book examines the collection of prayers known as the Qumran Hodayot (= Thanksgiving Hymns) in light of ancient visionary traditions, new developments in neuropsychology, and poststructuralist understandings of the embodied subject. The thesis of this book is that the ritualized reading of reports describing visionary experiences written in the first person "I" had the potential to create within the ancient reader the subjectivity of a visionary which can then predispose him to have a religious experience. This study examines how references to the body and the strategic arousal of emotions could

have functioned within a practice of performative reading to engender a

religious experience of ascent. In so doing, this book offers new

interdisciplinary insights into meditative ritual reading as a religious practice for transformation in antiquity.