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Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Illustrations -- Tables -- Preface -- Acknowledgments -- 1. Introduction The Field Of Discourse Production -- 2. Perpetual Reducción In A Land Of Frontiers -- 3. To Make Themselves New Men -- 4. From Field To Genre And Habitus -- 5. First Words From Spanish Into Maya -- 6. Commensuration Maya As A Matrix Language -- 7. The Grammar Of Reducción And The Art Of Speaking -- 8. The Canonical Word -- 9. The Scripted Landscape -- 10. Petitions As Prayers In The Field Of Reducción -- 11. Cross Talk In The Books Of Chilam Balam -- Epilogue Full Circle -- Notes -- References Cited -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	This pathbreaking synthesis of history, anthropology, and linguistics

gives an unprecedented view of the first two hundred years of the Spanish colonization of the Yucatec Maya. Drawing on an extraordinary range and depth of sources, William F. Hanks documents for the first time the crucial role played by language in cultural conquest: how colonial Mayan emerged in the age of the cross, how it was taken up by native writers to become the language of indigenous literature, and how it ultimately became the language of rebellion against the system that produced it. *Converting Words* includes original analyses of the linguistic practices of both missionaries and Mayas-as found in bilingual dictionaries, grammars, catechisms, land documents, native chronicles, petitions, and the forbidden Maya Books of Chilam Balam. Lucidly written and vividly detailed, this important work presents a new approach to the study of religious and cultural conversion that will illuminate the history of Latin America and beyond, and will be essential reading across disciplinary boundaries.
