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Nota di contenuto	The Hasidic tale as perceived by Hasidim -- The tsadik, his followers, and his opponents -- Matchmaking and marriages -- The blessing of children: birth and offspring -- Agunot -- A life of sin -- Illness and physicians -- The dead, burial, and the world to come -- Transmigration of the soul and dybbuks -- The powers of evil and the war against them -- Apostasy and apostates -- Ritual slaughterers -- The Tamim: the simple person -- Hidden tsadikim -- Hospitality -- The prophet Elijah -- The Ba'al Shem Tov's unsuccessful pilgrimage to the land of Israel.
Sommario/riassunto	Story-telling has been an integral part of the hasidic movement from its inception. Stories about the hasidic leaders and their mystical powers attracted followers and maintained their devotion, and still do so today. This important work, based on analysis of all the published anthologies of such stories, presents them by theme and traces their origins. Originally published in Hebrew and expanded for this edition, it makes a fascinating contribution to the history of hasidism, of Hebrew literature, and of Jewish popular culture.