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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (pages 394-412) and indexes.
Nota di contenuto	What is an oath? / A.H. Sommerstein -- Oath and curse / K. Konstantinidou -- Oaths in traditional myth / I.C. Torrance -- ; Friendship and enmity, trust and suspicion. Oaths between warriors in epic and tragedy / L.A. Kozak -- Oaths in business / A.H. Sommerstein -- ; The language of oaths. How oaths are expressed / A.H. Sommerstein -- The "Sophoclean" oath / I.C. Torrance -- "Of cabbages and kings": the Eideshort phenomenon /I.C. Torrance -- Ways to give oaths extra sanctity / I.C. Torrance -- ; Oaths, gender and status. Women and oaths / J. Fletcher -- Servile swearing / A.J. Bayliss -- The oaths of the gods / I.C. Torrance -- Oaths and characterization: two Homeric case studies / L.A. Kozak -- Oratory and rhetoric / A.H. Sommerstein -- "Artful dodging", or the sidestepping of oaths / A.J. Bayliss except as stated -- The difficulty of proving an oath false: the case of Euripides' Cyclops / I.C. Torrance -- ; The binding power of oaths. Were oaths always totally binding? / A.H. Sommerstein -- The oaths of lovers / A.H. Sommerstein -- The tongue and the mind: responses to Euripides, Hippolytus 612 / I.C. Torrance -- ; Responses

to perjury. Divine responses / I.C. Torrance -- Human responses / K. Konstantinidou -- The informal oath / A.H. Sommerstein -- Swearing oaths in the authorial person / I.C. Torrance -- The Hippocratic Oath / I.C. Torrance -- The decline of the oath? / A.H. Sommerstein.

#### Sommario/riassunto

The oath was an institution of fundamental importance across a wide range of social interactions throughout the ancient Greek world, making a crucial contribution to social stability and harmony; yet there has been no comprehensive, dedicated scholarly study of the subject for over a century. This volume of a two-volume study explores the nature of oaths as Greeks perceived it, the ways in which they were used (and sometimes abused) in Greek life and literature, and their inherent binding power.

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