

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910524905503321
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Titolo	The self and its pleasures : Bataille, Lacan, and the history of the decentered subject / / Carolyn J. Dean
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Ithaca, New York ; ; London : , : Cornell University Press, , 2016 ©1992
ISBN	9781501705403 9780801426605 9780801499548
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (ix, 270 pages) : illustrations
Disciplina	155.2/0944/0904
Soggetti	Self - History - 20th century Self (Philosophy) - History - 20th century Masochism - History Criminal psychology - History France Intellectual life 20th century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (pages 253-263) and index.
Sommario/riassunto	In this innovative cultural history, the author sheds light on the origins of poststructuralist thought, paying particular attention to the reinterpretation of the self by Jacques Lacan, Georges Bataille, and other French thinkers. Dean examines an array of evidence from medical texts and literary works alike. The Self and Its Pleasures offers a pathbreaking understanding of the boundaries between theory and history.