

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910777518303321
Autore	Metcalf Alida C. <1954->
Titolo	Go-betweens and the colonization of Brazil, 1500-1600 [[electronic resource] /] / Alida C. Metcalf
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Austin, : University of Texas Press, 2005
ISBN	0-292-79622-6
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (392 p.)
Disciplina	981/032
Soggetti	Indians of South America - First contact with other peoples - Brazil Conquerors - Portugal - History - 16th century Conquerors - Brazil - History - 16th century Brazil Colonization Brazil History 16th century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [335]-362) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Go-betweens -- Encounter -- Possession -- Conversion -- Biology -- Slavery -- Resistance -- Power.
Sommario/riassunto	Doña Marina (La Malinche) .Pocahontas .Sacagawea—their names live on in historical memory because these women bridged the indigenous American and European worlds, opening the way for the cultural encounters, collisions, and fusions that shaped the social and even physical landscape of the modern Americas. But these famous individuals were only a few of the many thousands of people who, intentionally or otherwise, served as "go-betweens" as Europeans explored and colonized the New World. In this innovative history, Alida Metcalf thoroughly investigates the many roles played by go-betweens in the colonization of sixteenth-century Brazil. She finds that many individuals created physical links among Europe, Africa, and Brazil—explorers, traders, settlers, and slaves circulated goods, plants, animals, and diseases. Intercultural liaisons produced mixed-race children. At the cultural level, Jesuit priests and African slaves infused native Brazilian traditions with their own religious practices, while translators became influential go-betweens, negotiating the terms of trade, interaction, and exchange. Most powerful of all, as Metcalf

shows, were those go-betweens who interpreted or represented new lands and peoples through writings, maps, religion, and the oral tradition. Metcalf's convincing demonstration that colonization is always mediated by third parties has relevance far beyond the Brazilian case, even as it opens a revealing new window on the first century of Brazilian history.
