

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910777783903321
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Titolo	Bessie [[electronic resource] /] / Chris Albertson
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New Haven, Conn. ; ; London, : Yale University Press, 2003
ISBN	1-4945-0370-0 9786611740658 1-281-74065-9 0-300-12706-5
Edizione	[Rev. and expanded ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (335 p.)
Disciplina	782.421643092
Soggetti	African American women singers Singers - United States Blues (Music) - 1931-1940
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Originally published: New York, N.Y. : Stein and Day, 1972.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references, discography and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Author's Note -- Acknowledgments -- Bessie -- Epilogue -- Notes -- Suggested Reading -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Considered by many to be the greatest blues singer of all time, Bessie Smith was also a successful vaudeville entertainer who became the highest paid African-American performer of the roaring twenties. This book-a revised and expanded edition of the classic biography of this extraordinary artist-debunks many of the myths that have circulated since her untimely death in 1937.Chris Albertson writes with insight and candor about the singer's personal life and her career, supplementing his historical research with dozens of interviews with her relatives, friends, and associates, in particular Ruby Walker Smith, a niece by marriage who toured with Bessie for over a decade. For this new edition he includes more details of Bessie's early years, new interview material, and a chapter devoted to events and responses that followed the original publication in 1971.