Record Nr. UNINA9910780287403321 Autore Wilson Donna F. <1953-> Titolo Ransom, revenge, and heroic identity in the Iliad / / Donna F. Wilson [[electronic resource]] Cambridge:,: Cambridge University Press,, 2002 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-107-12408-5 0-521-03278-4 0-511-49779-2 0-511-04423-2 0-511-17680-5 0-511-32981-4 1-280-41917-2 0-511-15770-3 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (ix, 236 pages) : digital, PDF file(s) Disciplina 883/.01 Soggetti Trojan War - Literature and the war Identity (Psychology) in literature Revenge in literature Heroes in literature Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Monografia Livello bibliografico Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015). Note generali Includes bibliographical references (p. 217-227) and indexes. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Introduction: Compensation and Heroic Identity -- Ransom and Revenge: Poetics and Politics of Compensation -- Agamemnon and Chryses: Between King and Father -- The Quarrel: Men Who Would Be King -- The Embassy to Achilleus: In the Name of the Father --Achilleus and Priam: Between King and Father -- Unlimited Poine: Poetry as Practice -- ; App. 1. Catalog of Compensation Themes -- ; App. 2. Arrangement of Compensation Themes. Sommario/riassunto From beginning to end of the Iliad, Agamemnon and Achilleus are locked in a high-stakes struggle for dominance based on their efforts to impose competing definitions of loss incurred and the nature of compensation thereby owed. This typology of scenes involving apoina,

or 'ransom' and poine, or 'revenge' is the basis of Donna Wilson's

detailed anthropology of compensation in Homer, which she locates in the wider context of agonistic exchange. Wilson argues that a struggle over definitions is a central feature of elite competition for status in the zero-sum and fluid ranking system characteristic of Homeric society. This system can be used to explain why Achilleus refuses Agamemnon's 'compensation' in Book 9, as well as why and how the embassy tries to mask it. Ransom, Revenge, and Heroic Identity in the Iliad thus examines the traditional semantic, cultural and poetic matrix of which compensation is an integral part.