Record Nr. UNINA9910781510203321 Autore Winterling Aloys Titolo Caligula [[electronic resource]]: a biography / / Aloys Winterling; translated by Deborah Lucas Schneider, Glenn W. Most, and Paul **Psoinos** Berkeley, : University of California Press, c2011 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-283-33183-7 9786613331830 0-520-94314-7 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (240 p.) Collana Joan Palevsky imprint in classical literature Altri autori (Persone) SchneiderDeborah Lucas MostGlenn W **PsoinosPaul** Disciplina 937/.07092 В Emperors - Rome Soggetti Rome History Caligula, 37-41 Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Originally published in German: Munchen: C.H. Beck, c2003, with title Caligula: eine Biographie. Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Introduction: A mad emperor? -- Childhood and youth -- Two years as princeps -- The conflicts escalate -- Five months of monarchy --Murder on the Palatine -- Conclusion: Inventing the mad emperor --Epilogue to the English edition. Sommario/riassunto The infamous emperor Caligula ruled Rome from A.D. 37 to 41 as a tyrant who ultimately became a monster. An exceptionally smart and cruelly witty man, Caligula made his contemporaries worship him as a god. He drank pearls dissolved in vinegar and ate food covered in gold leaf. He forced men and women of high rank to have sex with him, turned part of his palace into a brothel, and committed incest with his sisters. He wanted to make his horse a consul. Torture and executions were the order of the day. Both modern and ancient interpretations

have concluded from this alleged evidence that Caligula was insane. But

was he? This biography tells a different story of the well-known emperor. In a deft account written for a general audience, Aloys

Winterling opens a new perspective on the man and his times. Basing Caligula on a thorough new assessment of the ancient sources, he sets the emperor's story into the context of the political system and the changing relations between the senate and the emperor during Caligula's time and finds a new rationality explaining his notorious brutality.