

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910781865603321
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Titolo	Spirits with scalpels : the cultural biology of religious healing in Brazil / / Sidney M. Greenfield
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London : , : Routledge, , 2016
ISBN	1-315-41983-1 1-315-41984-X 1-315-41985-8 1-59874-740-1
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (241 p.)
Disciplina	306.6/0981 306.60981
Soggetti	Ethnobiology - Brazil Healing - Brazil Traditional medicine - Brazil Spirit possession - Brazil Brazil Religious life and customs Brazil Social life and customs
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	First published 2008 by Left Coast Press, Inc.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references.
Nota di contenuto	Contents; Prologue; Map; An Invitation and Introduction; Part I. Surgeries and Other Healing in Kardecist-Spiritism; Chapter 1. Jose Carlos Ribeiro: An Introduction to Spiritist Therapy; Chapter 2. Edson Queiroz: Spirit Surgeries in Recife; Chapter 3. Antonio de Oliveira Rios in Palmelo; Chapter 4. Mauricio Magalhaes in Campo Grande; Chapter 5. Not All Patients Are Cured: Kardecism's Approach to Death and Dying; Chapter 6. The Disobsession: Another Form of Spiritist Treatment; Chapter 7. Healing and the Competition for Religious Converts Part II. Healing by the Spirits in Other Brazilian Popular Religions Chapter 8. Religion and Religious Diversity in Brazilian History; Chapter 9. Pilgrimage and Healing in "Popular" Catholicism; Chapter 10. Healing by the Spirits in the African-Derived Traditions; Chapter 11. Healing in Umbanda; Chapter 12. Evangelicals and Healing by the Holy Ghost;

Chapter 13. Healing in the Competitive Religious Marketplace; Part III. Spirits, Healing, and a New Paradigm; Chapter 14. Healing by Spirits and Science; Chapter 15. Science as a Cultural Process  
Chapter 16. Communication, Information Flow, and a New Paradigm  
Chapter 17. Ritual, Altered States of Consciousness, and Cultural biological Healing; Chapter 18. Cultural biology and the Marketplace of Religion in Brazil; Postscript; Notes; References; Index

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Sommario/riassunto

"The first time I witnessed a Spiritist surgery, a young man named Jose Carlos Ribeiro inserted a used scalpel taken from a tray that I was holding, and plunged it into the eye of an elderly man. The patient did not move...." Decades of fieldwork later, Sidney Greenfield presents a riveting ethnography of the complex world of religious healing in Brazil that challenges readers to grapple with the most fundamental concepts of anthropology and cross-cultural experience. In a major contribution to cultural biology, he analyses the complex social, economic, and political landscape of Brazil to

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