1. Record Nr. UNINA9910782226703321 Autore Helmont Franciscus Mercurius van <1614-1699.> Titolo The alphabet of nature [[electronic resource] /] / by F.M. van Helmont; translated with an introduction and annotations by Allison P. Coudert & **Taylor Corse** Leiden;; Boston,: Brill, 2007 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-282-39681-1 9786612396816 90-474-1998-7 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (263 p.) Collana Aries book series:: v. 3 Altri autori (Persone) CoudertAllison <1941-> CorseTaylor <1951-> Disciplina 492.4/01 Soggetti Hebrew language - Alphabet - Religious aspects - Christianity Hebrew language - Alphabet - Religious aspects - Judaism Cabala and Christianity Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Includes bibliographical references (p. [205]-208) and index. Nota di bibliografia Preliminary Material / A.P. Coudert and T. Corse -- Alphabeti Vere Nota di contenuto Naturalis Hebraici — A Short Sketch Of The Truly Natural Hebrew Alphabet / A.P. Coudert and T. Corse -- Images / A.P. Coudert and T. Corse -- Bibliography / A.P. Coudert and T. Corse. Sommario/riassunto F. M van Helmont's Alphabet of Nature was one of many books published about language in the early modern period. The "language debate," as it has come to be called, was a topic of compelling interest to major figures such as Reuchlin, Rabelais, Paracelsus, Agrippa, Postel, Boehme, Kircher, Hobbes, Descartes, Comenius, Spinoza, Locke, Boyle, Newton, and Leibniz. At issue were profound questions about whether language is natural or artificial, ordained by God or created by man. The answers given entailed a web of consequences that could lead to arrest, imprisonment, even execution. It is therefore not surprising that van Helmont wrote his book while imprisoned in the dungeons of the

Roman Inquisition.