

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910787723603321
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Titolo	Thicker than water : the origins of blood as symbol and ritual / / Melissa L. Meyer
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York : , : Routledge, , 2005
ISBN	1-135-34207-5 1-135-34200-8 0-203-95260-X
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (272 p.)
Disciplina	306.4
Soggetti	Blood - Social aspects Blood - Symbolic aspects
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Cover; Title Page; Copyright Page; Dedication; Table of Contents; Acknowledgments; Chapter 1 Introduction The Human Inclination to Symbolize and Ritualize Blood; Chapter 2 Women's Blood and Men's Blood at the Dawn of Human Culture; Chapter 3 The Blood of Conception, Pregnancy, and Childbirth; Chapter 4 Initiation Rites The Role of Blood in Attaining Adult or Group Status; Chapter 5 Menstruation The Fundamental Foundation; Chapter 6 Sacrifice ""Birth Done Better""; Chapter 7 Conclusion The Patterned Heterogeneity of Blood Symbols and Rituals; Notes; Index
Sommario/riassunto	Blood is more than a fluid solution of cells, platelets and plasma. It is a symbol for the most basic of human concerns--life, death and family find expression in rituals surrounding everything from menstruation to human sacrifice. Comprehensive in its scope and provocative in its argument, this book examines beliefs and rituals concerning blood in a range of regional and religious contexts throughout human history. Meyer reveals the origins of a wide range of blood rituals, from the earliest surviving human symbolism of fertility and the hunt, to the Jewish bris, and the clitoridectomy