1. Record Nr. UNINA9910790697703321 Autore Ahnert Ruth Titolo The rise of prison literature in the sixteenth century / / Ruth Ahnert [[electronic resource]] Cambridge:,: Cambridge University Press,, 2013 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-139-89310-6 1-107-42522-0 1-108-43879-2 1-107-42301-5 1-139-62884-4 1-107-41994-8 1-107-42118-7 1-107-41733-3 1-107-41859-3 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (x, 221 pages) : digital, PDF file(s) Disciplina 809/.8920692 Soggetti Prisoners' writings - History and criticism Prisoners in literature Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015). Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Introduction -- The sixteenth-century prison -- Writing the prison --Prison communities -- 'Frendes abrode' -- Liberating the text? --Afterword -- Bibliography -- Index. Examining works by some of the most famous prisoners from the early Sommario/riassunto modern period including Thomas More, Lady Jane Grey and Thomas Wyatt, Ruth Ahnert presents the first major study of prison literature dating from this era. She argues that the English Reformation established the prison as an influential literary sphere. In the previous centuries we find only isolated examples of prison writings, but the religious and political instability of the Tudor reigns provided the conditions for the practice to thrive. This book shows the wide variety of genres that prisoners wrote, and it explores the subtle tricks they

employed in order to appropriate the site of the prison for their own

agendas. Ahnert charts the spreading influence of such works beyond the prison cell, tracing the textual communities they constructed, and the ways in which writings were smuggled out of prison and then disseminated through script and print.