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| 1. Record Nr. | UNINA9910791139803321 |
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| Titolo | Lord Eight Wind of Suchixtlan and the heroes of ancient Oaxaca [[electronic resource]] : reading history in the Codex Zouche-Nuttall / / Robert Lloyd Williams ; foreword by F. Kent Reilly, III ; introduction by John M. D. Pohl |
| Pubbl/distr/stampa | Austin, TX, : University of Texas Press, c2009 |
| ISBN | 0-292-79334-0 |
| Edizione | [1st ed.] |
| Descrizione fisica | 1 online resource (241 p.) |
| Collana | Linda Schele series in Maya and pre-Columbian studies |
| Disciplina | 972/.01 |
| Soggetti | Manuscripts, Mixtec Mixtec Indians - History Mixtec Indians - Kings and rulers Mixtec language - Writing Picture-writing - Mexico |
| Lingua di pubblicazione | Inglese |
| Formato | Materiale a stampa |
| Livello bibliografico | Monografia |
| Note generali | Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph |
| Nota di bibliografia | Includes bibliographical references and index. |
| Nota di contenuto | Frontmatter -- Contents -- Foreword -- Author's Preface -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction -- Part One -- 1. It Happened Long Ago -- 2. The People of the Codices -- 3. The Narrative Structure of Codex Zouche-Nuttall Obverse -- 4. Sacred Geography, Personified Geography -- 5. Caves in Mesoamerican Iconography -- Part Two -- 6. Lord Eight Wind's Introduction -- 7. The War from Heaven, Part One -- 8. The War from Heaven, Part Two -- 9. Lord Eight Wind's Family -- 10. Transition to the Future -- Part Three -- 11. Rituals of Order -- 12. The Problem of the Two Dead Lords -- 13. The Epiclassic Mixtec Ceremonial Complex -- Appendix I. Biographical Sketches of Major Personnel from the Codices: Lord Eight Deer the Usurper, Lord Two Rain the King, and Lady Six Monkey of Jaltepec -- Appendix II. Notes for Codex Zouche-Nuttall Pages 1–4 -- Appendix III. Codex Zouche- Nuttall Reverse Day Dates on Pages 46a–48a for Year 5 Reed (AD 1095) and Lord Eight Deer's Campaign as Lord of Tututepec -- Bibliography -- Index |
| Sommario/riassunto | In the pre-Hispanic Mesoamerican world, histories and collections of |

ritual knowledge were often presented in the form of painted and folded books now known as codices, and the knowledge itself was encoded into pictographs. Eight codices have survived from the Mixtec peoples of ancient Oaxaca, Mexico; a part of one of them, the Codex Zouche-Nuttall, is the subject of this book. As a group, the Mixtec codices contain the longest detailed histories and royal genealogies known for any indigenous people in the western hemisphere. The Codex Zouche-Nuttall offers a unique window into how the Mixtecs themselves viewed their social and political cosmos without the bias of western European interpretation. At the same time, however, the complex calendrical information recorded in the Zouche-Nuttall has made it resistant to historical, chronological analysis, thereby rendering its narrative obscure. In this pathfinding work, Robert Lloyd Williams presents a methodology for reading the Codex Zouche-Nuttall that unlocks its essentially linear historical chronology. Recognizing that the codex is a combination of history in the European sense and the timelessness of myth in the Native American sense, he brings to vivid life the history of Lord Eight Wind of Suchixtlan (AD 935–1027), a ruler with the attributes of both man and deity, as well as other heroic Oaxacan figures. Williams also provides context for the history of Lord Eight Wind through essays dealing with Mixtec ceremonial rites and social structure, drawn from information in five surviving Mixtec codices.
