

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910794393403321
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Titolo	The Platonizing Sethian background of Plotinus's mysticism / / by Alexander J. Mazur ; revised edition by Dylan M. Burns, with Kevin Corrigan [and three others]
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Leiden, The Netherlands ; ; Boston : , : Brill, , [2021] ©2021
ISBN	90-04-44171-9
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource
Collana	Nag Hammadi and Manichaeae studies ; ; Volume 98
Disciplina	186.4
Soggetti	Platonists Neoplatonism Sethians Mysticism One (The One in philosophy)
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction: The gnostic background of Plotinus's mysticism -- The structure of Plotinus' ascent to mystical union with the One -- The identity of prenoetic and hypernoetic subjects in Plotinus -- "The way of ascent is the way of descent" : the mechanism of transcendental apprehension in Platonizing Sethian Gnosticism -- Conclusion: Dissolving boundaries.
Sommario/riassunto	In The Platonizing Sethian Background of Plotinus's Mysticism , Zeke Mazur offers a radical reconceptualization of Plotinus with reference to Gnostic thought and praxis. A crucial element in the thought of the third-century CE philosopher Plotinus-his conception of mystical union with the One-cannot be understood solely within the conventional history of philosophy, or as the product of a unique, sui generis psychological propensity. This monograph demonstrates that Plotinus tacitly patterned his mystical ascent to the One on a type of visionary ascent ritual that is first attested in Gnostic sources. These sources include the Platonizing Sethian tractates Zostrianos (NHC VIII,1) and Allogenes (NHC XI,3) of which we have Coptic translations from Nag

Hammadi and whose Greek Vorlagen were known to have been read in Plotinus's school.
