

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910798433903321
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Titolo	Heroines, heroes and deity : three narratives of the biblical heroic tradition / by Dolores G. Kamrada
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York, : Bloomsbury, 2016
ISBN	0-567-66239-X 0-567-66238-1
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (233 pages) : illustrations, tables
Collana	Library of Hebrew Bible/Old Testament studies ; 613
Disciplina	222/.3206
Soggetti	Narration in the Bible
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	Preface -- Acknowledgements -- Abbreviations -- 1. Introduction -- 2. First Chapter: The Sacrifice of Jephthah's Daughter -- 3. Second Chapter: Hairy Samson: The Function of the Hair Motif in the Samson Cycle -- 4. Third Chapter: Urim and Thummim - Saul and David -- 5. Closing Reflections -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	"Using a methodology of character analysis, Kamrada illustrates how the representation of certain characters in the Bible utilizes and reverses Greek traditions of the tragic and the heroic for the glorification of God."-- Kamrada's study analyses three narratives concerning the greatest heroic figures of the biblical tradition: Jephthah's daughter, Samson and Saul, and includes a consideration of texts about King David. All three characters are portrayed as the greatest and most typical and exemplary heroes of the heroic era. All three heroes have an exceptionally close relationship with the deity all die a traditionally heroic, tragic death. Kamrada argues that within the Book of Judges and the biblical heroic tradition, Jephthah's daughter and Samson represent the pinnacle of female and male heroism respectively, and that they achieve super-human status by offering their lives to the deity, thus entering the sphere of holiness. Saul's trajectory, by contrast, exemplifies downfall of a great hero in his final, irreversible separation from God, and it also signals the decline of the heroic era. David, however, is shown as an astute hero who founds a lasting

dynasty, thus conclusively bringing the heroic era in the Deuteronomistic history to a close
