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Nota di contenuto	Foreword / Christopher C. Taylor -- Introduction / Gyles Iannone, Brett A. Houk, and Sonja A. Schwake -- Cross-cultural perspectives on the scapegoat king: the anatomy of a model / Gyles Iannone -- Killing the "Kings of Stone": the defacement of classic Maya monuments / Eleanor Harrison-Buck -- Concepts of legitimacy and social dynamics: termination ritual and the last king of Aguateca, Guatemala / Takeshi Inomata -- The life and afterlife of the classic period Piedras Negras Kingdom / Charles Golden, Andrew K. Scherer, Melanie Kingsley, Stephen D. Houston, and Hector Escobedo -- Destruction events and political truncation at the little kingdom of Minanha, Belize / Sonja A.

Schwake and Gyles Iannone -- The collapses in the West and the violent ritual termination of the classic Maya capital center of Cancuen: causes and consequences / Arthur A. Demarest, Claudia Quintanilla, and Jose Samuel Suasnavar -- Social-political manifestations of the terminal classic: Colha, Northern Belize as a case study -- Palma J. Buttles and Fred Valdez Jr -- Signs of the times: terminal classic surface deposits and the fates of Maya kingdoms in Northwestern Belize / Brett A. Houk -- Events and processes leading to the abandonment of the Maya city of Blue Creek, Belize / Thomas H. Guderjan and C. Colleen Hanratty -- Dynamic transitions at El Peru-Waka: late terminal classic ritual repurposing of a monumental shrine / Olivia C. Navarro-Farr -- Lords of the life force and their people: reflections on ritual violence and reverence in the Maya Archaeological record / David Freidel.

Sommario/riassunto

This volume explores the links between the declining prosperity of the Late to Terminal Classic period and the erosion of kingly legitimacy. Exploring issues such as the rise of inflation, greater demand of tax and tribute, deforestation due to over-population, and drought conditions, the essayists examine what happens to a society when the king, who should be appeasing the gods, is seen as the problem.
