1. Record Nr. UNINA9910807270803321
Autore Hildegard, Saint, <1098-1179.>

Titolo The letters of Hildegard of Bingen . Volume I / / translated by Joseph L.

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Pubbl/distr/stampa New York, : Oxford University Press, 1998, c1994

1-280-75997-6 0-19-802499-1 0-19-535297-1

0-585-24571-1

Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (242 pages)

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Disciplina 282.092

282/.092 B

Soggetti Christian saints - Germany

Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese

Formato Materiale a stampa

Livello bibliografico Monografia

Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and indexes.

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Sommario/riassunto

The first translation into English of the complete correspondence of the remarkable twelfth-century Benedictine abbess Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179), this study consists of nearly four hundred letters, in four projected volumes. Addressed to some of the most notable people of the day, as well as to some of humble status, the correspondence reveals the saint in ways her more famous works leave obscure: as determined reformer, as castigating seer, as theoretical musician, as patient adviser, as exorcist. Sometimes diffident and restrained, sometimes thunderously imperious, her letters are indi