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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 223-235) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Language and Jewish identity -- Jewish language and identity in comparative and historical perspective -- Language and Jewish identity in modern times -- Hebrew as language of ancient Israel -- The death of Hebrew as a spoken language -- Hebrew as a sacred language -- Diaspora Hebrew and the modern European ideology of language and identity -- The revival of Hebrew -- Diaspora Hebrew today -- Aramaic -- Judeo-Arabic -- Judeo-Spanish -- Yiddish -- Are 'Jewish languages' a unique phenomenon? -- Why are there no new 'Jewish languages'? -- Flowering and death -- Catastrophe and emotional attachment -- Prestige of languages -- Is Yiddish qualitatively different from other diaspora languages? -- Conflicts with everyday-language-and-identity groups -- Sociolinguistics in Israel today.
Sommario/riassunto	This book argues that the usage of language in Jewish societies can be understood as following from certain specific principles, particularly regarding the relationship between language and identity. Phenomena discussed include the revival of Hebrew, Hebrew in the Diaspora, the survival and 'sanctification' of Yiddish, the idea of 'Jewish languages',

and the role of sociolinguistic phenomena in the Holocaust and the Arab-Israeli conflict.
