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Nota di contenuto	Introduction -- PART ONE: DOMESTICATING THE OCCULT -- 1. The Undomesticated Occult -- 2. The Mahatmas in Clubland: Manliness and Scientific Spirituality -- 3. "A Deficiency of the Male Element": Gendering Spiritual Experience -- 4. "Buggery and Humbuggery": Sex, Magic, and Occult Authority -- PART TWO: POLITICAL ALCHEMIES -- 5. Occult Body Politics -- 6. The Divine Hermaphrodite and the Female Messiah: Feminism and Spirituality in the 1890's -- 7. A New Age for Women: Suffrage and the Sacred -- 8. Ancient Wisdom, Modern Motherhood -- Conclusion
Sommario/riassunto	Divine Feminine is the first full-length study of the relationship between alternative or esoteric spirituality and the feminist movement in England. Historian Joy Dixon examines the Theosophical Society's claims that women and the East were the repositories of spiritual forces which English men had forfeited in their scramble for material and imperial power. Theosophists produced arguments that became key tools in many feminist campaigns. Many women of the Theosophical Society became suffragists to promote the spiritualizing of politics, attempting to create a political role for women as a way to "sacralize the public sphere." Dixon also shows that theosophy provides much of the framework and the vocabulary for today's New Age movement. Many of the assumptions about class, race, and gender which marked the emergence of esoteric religions at the end of the nineteenth century

continue to shape alternative spiritualities today.
