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Collana	An Ahmanson Foundation book in the humanities
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Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Foreword -- Introduction -- Apt: Reading an Antique City as Palimpsest -- Desolate Treasure -- Crypto-Christianity: The Sarcophagi of Arles, I -- Terra Sigillata -- Relics: Membra Martyrum as Living Current -- Venus Disfigured -- The Blossoming of Numbers: The Baptistry at Riez -- The Deletion of Shadow: The Sarcophagi of Arles, II -- City of God -- Laying the Dragon Low -- The Dark Ages: A History of Omissions -- The Blue Tears of Sainte-Marthe -- The Blind Arcade: Reflections on a Carolingian Sarcophagus -- Celestial Paradigms -- Vaulting the Nave -- The Dome: Architecture as Antecedent -- Classical Roots, Evangelical Branches -- Vanished Scaffolds and the Structures Thereof -- Incastellamento: Perching the Village, I -- Incastellamento: Perching the Village, II The Circulades of Languedoc -- Faja Oscura -- Psalmodi -- The Fifth Element: From Manna to Exaction -- Mary Magdalene the Odoriferous -- The Death of Genesis -- Notes -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Bits of late Roman coinage, the mutilated torso of a marble Venus, blue debris from an early medieval glassworks, and the powder rasped from the reputed tomb of Mary Magdalene-these tantalizing mementos of human history found scattered throughout the landscape of

southeastern France are the points of departure for Gustaf Sobin's lyrical narrative. A companion volume to his acclaimed *Luminous Debris, Ladder of Shadows* picks up where the former left off: with late antiquity, covering a period from roughly the third to the thirteenth century. Here Sobin offers brilliant readings of late Roman and early Christian ruins in his adopted region of Provence, sifting through iconographic, architectural, and sacramental vestiges to shed light on nothing less than the existential itself.

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