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Titolo	The forsaken first-born : a study of a recurrent motif in the patriarchal narratives // Roger Syren
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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 146-150) and indexes.
Nota di contenuto	Contents; Preface; Abbreviations; Introduction; Chapter 1 THE ISHMAEL TEXTS; Chapter 2 THE ISHMAEL MOTIF APPLIED TO A POSTEXILIC CONTEXT; Chapter 3 THE ESAU TEXTS; Chapter 4 THE GENEALOGICAL LISTS OF ISHMAEL AND ESAU; Chapter 5 THE REUBEN TEXTS; Chapter 6 THE MANASSEH TEXTS; Chapter 7 CONCLUSIONS; Bibliography; Index of References; Index of Authors
Sommario/riassunto	This provocative book combines literary and historical methods to examine the phenomenon of the 'forsaken firstborn' in Genesis. The dignity of the firstborn sons of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph-Ishmael, Esau, Reuben and Manasseh-is disregarded in the narrative and the rights inherent in their status are taken from them and conferred on a younger brother. One might easily compare this with the motif in many folktales of the youngest son outdoing his elder brothers in cleverness and skill. But unlike the folklore motif, in the book of Genesis the younger brother's success is not due to any