1. Record Nr. UNINA9910818215603321 Autore Henderson John <1948-> Titolo Morals and villas in Seneca's Letters : places to dwell / / John Henderson Cambridge;; New York,: Cambridge University Press, 2004 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-280-44930-6 0-511-18567-7 0-511-18484-0 0-511-18751-3 0-511-31360-8 0-511-48222-1 0-511-18658-4 Edizione [1st ed.] 1 online resource (ix, 189 pages): digital, PDF file(s) Descrizione fisica 876/.01 Disciplina Soggetti Latin letters Latin letters - History and criticism Philosophers - Rome Architecture, Domestic - Rome Country homes - Rome Ethics, Ancient Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015). Note generali Includes bibliographical references (p. 177-183) and indexes. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto ; 1. Twelve steps to haven. Book 1: Letters 1-11 -- ; 2. Dropping in (it) at Seneca's. With text and translation of Letter 12 --; 3. You can get used to anything. Books 2-10 --; 4. The long and winding mode. Books 14-20+ -- ; 5. Booking us in. Letters 84-88 -- ; 6. Now and then; here and there: at Scipio's. Text and translation of Letter 86 --; 7. Bound for Vatia's. Text and translation of Letter 55 --; 8. Knocking the self: genuflexion, villafication, Vatia's. Letter 55 -- ; 9. The world of the bath-house: Scipio's. Scipio in Letter 86; with: Horace's common scents --; 10. The appliance of science: Scipio's. Aegialus in Letter 86; with: Virgil's funny farm. Sommario/riassunto John Henderson explores three letters of Seneca describing visits to

Roman villas, and surveys the whole collection to show how these villas work as designs for contrasting lives. Seneca's own place is ageing drastically; a recent Epicurean's paradise is a seductive oasis away from the dangers of Nero's Rome; once a fortress of the dour Rome of yesteryear, the legendary Scipio's lair was now a shrine to the old morality: Seneca revels in its primitive bath-house, dark and cramped, before exploring the garden with the present owner. Seneca brings the philosophical epistle to Latin literature, creating models for moralizing which feature self-criticism, parody and re-animated myth. Virgil and Horace come in for rough handling, as the Latin moralist wrests ethical practice and writing away from Greek gurus and texts, and into critical thinking within a Roman context. Here is powerful teaching on metaphor and translation, on self-transformation and cultural tradition.