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| ISBN | 0-8203-4689-6 |
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| Soggetti | Funeral rites and ceremonies - United States Mourning customs - United States Undertakers and undertaking - United States United States Social life and customs |
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| Nota di contenuto | COVER; CONTENTS; PREFACE; CHAPTER 1 American Ways of Death; CHAPTER 2 Gone, but Not Forgotten; DISMAL TRADE: Sarah Peacock, Memorial Tattoo Artist: Under the Skin; CHAPTER 3 The Cemetery's Cemetery; DISMAL TRADE: Kay Powell, Obituary Writer: The Doyenne Speaks; CHAPTER 4 The Last Great Obit Writers' Conference; CHAPTER 5 Give Me That Old-Time Green Burial; DISMAL TRADE: Oana Hogrefe, Memorial Photographer Memory Maker; CHAPTER 6 The House Where Death Lives; DISMAL TRADE: Lenette Hall, Owner, The Urngarden: The Business at the Back of the Closet; CHAPTER 7 With the Fishes DISMAL TRADE: Anne Gordon, Funeral Chaplain: Funerals Are FunCHAPTER 8 Death by the Roadside; AFTERWORD; ACKNOWLEDGMENTS; NOTES; BIBLIOGRAPHY |
| Sommario/riassunto | Someone dies. What happens next?. One family inters their matriarch's ashes on the floor of the ocean. Another holds a memorial weenie roast each year at a greenburial cemetery. An 1898 ad for embalming fluid promises, ""You can make mummies with it!"" while a leading contemporary burial vault is touted as impervious to the elements. A grieving mother, 150 years ago, might spend her days tending a garden at her daughter's grave. Today, she might tend the roadside |

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memorial she erected at the spot her daughter was killed. One mother wears a locket containing her daughter's hair; the other, a nec