

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910820457403321
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Titolo	The grotesque body in early Christian discourse : hell, scatology, and metamorphosis // Istvan Czachesz
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Sheffield ; ; Bristol, CT, : Equinox Pub., 2012 Sheffield ; ; Bristol, CT : , : Equinox Pub., , 2012
ISBN	1-317-54404-8 1-315-72881-8 1-84465-741-8 1-84553-885-4 1-317-54405-6
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (viii, 232 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)
Collana	BibleWorld
Disciplina	233/.5 270.1
Soggetti	Christian literature, Early - History and criticism Human body in literature Grotesque in literature
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 02 Oct 2015).
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [189] - 216 p.) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Hell -- Grotesque bodies in the Christian underworld -- Torture in Hell and reality -- Body and mortality -- The bride of the demon -- Scatology -- Deviance labeling : the politics of the grotesque -- Scatological humor -- Metamorphoses -- Polymorphy -- Speaking asses and other devoted animals -- Metamorphoses of Christ -- Counterintuitiveness and embodiment : the grotesque in cognitive perspective.
Sommario/riassunto	Early Christian apocryphal and conical documents present us with grotesque images of the human body, often combining the playful and humorous with the repulsive, and fearful. First to third century Christian literature was shaped by the discourse around and imagery of the human body. This study analyses how the iconography of bodily cruelty and visceral morality was produced and refined from the very start of Christian history. The sources range across Greek comedy,

Roman and Jewish demonology, and metamorphosis traditions. The study reveals how these images originated, were adopted, and were shaped to the service of a doctrinally and psychologically persuasive Christian message.

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