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| Nota di contenuto       | Preliminary material / Paul Mirecki and Marvin Meyer -- A NEW MAGICAL FORMULARY / William Brashear and Roy Kotansky -- TWO POPYRI WITH FORMULAE FOR DIVINATION / David Jordan -- AN EARLY CHRISTIAN GOLD LAMELLA FOR HEADACHE / Roy Kotansky -- A SEVENTH-CENTURY COPTIC LIMESTONE IN THE ASHMOLEAN MUSEUM, OXFORD / Paul Mirecki -- GREAT SCOTT! THOUGHT AND ACTION ONE MORE TIME / Jonathan Z. Smith -- THEORIES OF MAGIC IN ANTIQUITY / Fritz Graf -- THE POETICS OF THE MAGICAL CHARM: AN ESSAY IN THE POWER OF WORDS / H.S. Versnel -- DYNAMICS OF RITUAL EXPERTISE IN ANTIQUITY AND BEYOND: TOWARDS A NEW TAXONOMY OF 'MAGICIANS' / David Frankfurter -- FIAT MAGIA / C. A. Hoffman -- DIVIDING A GOD / Richard H. Beal -- TRANSLATING TRANSFERS IN ANCIENT MESOPOTAMIA / Joann Scurlock -- NECROMANCY, FERTILITY AND THE DARK EARTH: THE USE OF RITUAL PITS IN HITTITE CULT / Billie Jean Collins -- CANAANITE MAGIC VS. ISRAELITE RELIGION: DEUTERONOMY 18 AND THE TAXONOMY OF TABOO / Brian B. Schmidt -- SECRECY AND MAGIC, PUBLICITY AND TORAH: UNPACKING A TALMUDIC TALE / S. Daniel Breslauer -- SHAMANIC INITIATORY DEATH AND RESURRECTION IN THE HEKHALOT LITERATURE / James R. Davila |

-- SACRIFICIAL THEMES IN JEWISH MAGIC / Michael D. Swartz -- THE ETHNIC ORIGINS OF A ROMAN-ERA PHILTROKATADESMOS (PGM IV 296-434) / Christopher A. Faraone -- SACRIFICE IN THE GREEK MAGICAL PAPYRI / Sarah Iles Johnston -- BEANS, FLEAWORT, AND THE BLOOD OF A HAMADRYAS BABOON: RECIPE INGREDIENTS IN GRECO-ROMAN MAGICAL MATERIALS / Lynn R. LiDonnici -- THE WITCHES' THESSALY / Oliver Phillips -- SPEECH ACTS AND THE STAKES OF HELLENISM IN LATE ANTIQUITY / Peter T. Struck -- THE PRAYER OF MARY WHO DISSOLVES CHAINS IN COPTIC MAGIC AND RELIGION / Marvin Meyer -- THE MAGICIAN AND THE HERETIC: THE CASE OF SIMON MAGUS / Ayse Tuzlak -- ANCIENT EXECRATION MAGIC IN COPTIC AND ISLAMIC EGYPT / Nicole B. Hansen -- INDEX OF PRIMARY SOURCES / Paul Mirecki and Marvin Meyer -- RELIGIONS IN THE GRAECO-ROMAN WORLD / Paul Mirecki and Marvin Meyer.

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Sommario/riassunto

This volume contains a series of provocative essays that explore expressions of magic and ritual power in the ancient world. The essays are authored by leading scholars in the fields of Egyptology, ancient Near Eastern studies, the Hebrew Bible, Judaica, classical Greek and Roman studies, early Christianity and patristics, and Coptic and Islamic Egypt. The strength of the present volume lies in the breadth of scholarly approaches represented. The book begins with several papyrological studies presenting important new texts in Greek and Coptic, continuing with essays focusing on taxonomy and definition. The concluding essays apply contemporary theories to analyses of specific test cases in a broad variety of ancient Mediterranean cultures.

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