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Nota di contenuto	CONTENTS; Preface; Abbreviations; Introduction; Part I. PROLEGOMENA; Chapter 1; HISTORY OF RESEARCH; Chapter 2; TEXT, ORIGINAL LANGUAGE, CHARACTER, PROVENANCE, DATE AND GENRE: THE PRESENT STATE OF RESEARCH; Part II. DESCRIPTIVE ANALYSIS; Introduction to Part II; Chapter 3; THE LITERARY CONTEXT SOCIAL TENSIONS IN THE NARRATIVE OF ASENETH'S CONVERSION; Chapter 4; FORMAL AND CONCEPTUAL FEATURES OF ASENETH'S CONVERSION; Part III. COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS; Introduction to Part III; Chapter 5; JEWISH PROSELYTISM; Chapter 6 INITIATION INTO GROUPS WITHIN JUDAISM: ESSENES, THERAPEUTAE, HABUROTH, Gnostics and Merkabah MysticsChapter 7; MYSTERY INITIATION; Chapter 8; CONCLUSIONS; Bibliography; Index of References; Index of Authors
Sommario/riassunto	This monograph, the first in English on any aspect of Joseph and Aseneth, examines Aseneth's conversion as narrated in this important but neglected apocryphal Jewish romance. An extensive history of research on Joseph and Aseneth and an analysis of key issues such as text, original language, character, provenance, date, and genre, precede and inform the study of conversion. The story of Aseneth's

conversion has too often been understood on the basis of premature and superficial comparisons with other paradigms of conversion and initiation in the Hellenistic world. As a corrective, Chesnutt ass
