

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910827252003321
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Titolo	Help my unbelief : James Joyce and religion // Geert Lernout
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London ; ; New York : , : Continuum, , 2010
ISBN	1-4725-4307-6 1-283-20247-6 9786613202475 1-4411-0640-5
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (248 p.)
Disciplina	823.912
Soggetti	Faith in literature
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (pages [222]-229) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Acknowledgements -- List of Abbreviations -- Introduction -- 1. Joyce and the church according to the critics -- 2. The Holy Roman Apostolic Church -- 3. Heresy, Schisma and Dissent -- 4. Joyce's own crisis of belief -- 5. Loss of religion in retrospect: from Epiphanies to Exiles -- 6. You behold in me a horrible example of freethought -- 7. Free money, free rent, free love and a free lay church in a free lay state -- 8. After Ulysses -- Conclusion -- Select Bibliography -- Index.
Sommario/riassunto	"From the very beginning James Joyce's readers have considered him as a Catholic or an anti-Catholic writer, and in recent years the tendency has been to recuperate him for an alternative and decidedly liberal form of Catholicism. However, a careful study of Joyce's published and unpublished writings reveals that throughout his career as a writer he rejected the church in which he had grown up. As a result, Geert Lernout argues that it is misleading to divorce his work from that particular context, which was so important to his decision to become a writer in the first place. Arguing that Joyce's unbelief is critical for a fuller understanding of his work, Lernout takes his title from Ulysses, "I believe, O Lord, help my unbelief. That is, help me to believe or help me to unbelieve?", itself a quote from Mark 9: 24. This incisive study will be of interest to all readers of Joyce and to anyone interested in the relationship between religion and literature."--Bloomsbury Publishing.

