

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910454713203321
Autore	Miller Ruth Austin <1975->
Titolo	The erotics of corruption [[electronic resource]] : law, scandal, and political perversion / / Ruth A. Miller
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Albany, N.Y., : State University of New York Press, c2008
ISBN	0-7914-7820-3 1-4356-5854-X
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (242 p.)
Disciplina	364.1/323
Soggetti	Political corruption Sexual ethics Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 159-208) and index.

2. Record Nr.	UNINA9910915701603321
Titolo	Demons in Early Judaism and Christianity : Characters and Characteristics / / edited by Hector M. Patmore and Josef Lössl
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Leiden ; ; Boston : , : Brill, , 2022
ISBN	9789004518148 9004518142
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (349 pages)
Collana	Ancient Judaism and Early Christianity ; ; 113
Disciplina	220.096 290
Soggetti	Jewish demonology Demonology Judaism - Doctrines Religion
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
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Sommario/riassunto

This volume sheds light on how Jews and Christians in Antiquity understood the nature and characteristics of demons. The contributions cover a wide range of corpora and explore aspects of continuity and change as ideas flowed between groups and cultures. For Jews and Christians in Antiquity beliefs about demons were integral to their reflections on fundamental theological questions, but what kind of 'being' did they consider demons to be? To what extent were they thought to be embodied? Were demons thought of as physical entities or merely as metaphors for social and psychological realities? What is the relation between demons and the hypostatization of abstract concepts (fear, impurity, etc) and baleful phenomenon such as disease? These are some of the questions that this volume addresses by focussing on the nature and characteristics of demons — what one might call 'demonic ontology'.