

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910955201903321
Titolo	The apocalyptic year 1000 : religious expectation and social change, 950-1050 // edited by Richard Landes, Andrew Gow, and David C. Van Meter
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Oxford ; ; New York, : Oxford University Press, 2003
ISBN	1-280-45358-3 0-19-535473-7 1-4237-5768-8
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (377 p.)
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Disciplina	940.1/46
Soggetti	Second Advent - History of doctrines - Middle Ages, 600-1500 Christianity and culture - Europe One thousand, A.D
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Papers delivered at a conference held at the end of 1996.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Contents; Abbreviations; Introduction: The Terribles espoirs of 1000 and the Tacit Fears of 2000; 1. Awaiting the End of Time around the Turn of the Year 1000; I. The Apocalyptic Year 1000 in Medieval Thought; II. The Apocalyptic Year 1000 in Medieval Art and Literature; III. Historiography of the Apocalyptic Year 1000; IV. Tools and Sources; Index
Sommario/riassunto	The essays in this volume challenge prevailing views on the way in which apocalyptic concerns contributed to larger processes of social change at the first millennium. They should provoke new interest in and debate on the nature and causes of social change in early medieval Europe.