

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910963195703321
Titolo	The Blood libel legend : a casebook in anti-Semitic folklore / / editor, Alan Dundes
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Madison, Wis., : University of Wisconsin Press, 1991
ISBN	9780299131135 0299131130
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (396 pages) : illustrations
Altri autori (Persone)	DundesAlan
Disciplina	305.8/924
Soggetti	Blood accusation Christianity and antisemitism
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. 366-381) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Preface ; Acknowledgments; Thomas of Monmouth: Detector of Ritual Murder; Little St. Hugh of Lincoln: Researches in History, Archaeology, and Legend; Little Sir Hugh: An Analysis; The Prioress's Tale; The Ritual Murder Accusation in Britain; The Hilsner Affair; The Present State of the Ritual Crime in Spain; Damascus to Kiev: Civilta Cattolica on Ritual Murder; Ritual Murder Accusations in Nineteenth-Century Egypt; Twentieth-Century Blood Libels in the United States; The Feast of Purim and the Origins of the Blood Accusation; The Blood Libel: A Motif in the History of Childhood. The Ritual Murder Accusation: The Persistence of Doubt and the Repetition CompulsionThe Ritual Murder or Blood Libel Legend: A Study of Anti-Semitic Victimization through Projective Inversion; A Selected Bibliography: Suggestions for Further Reading on the Blood Libel Legend; Index
Sommario/riassunto	Alan Dundes, in this casebook of an anti-Semitic legend, demonstrates the power of folklore to influence thought and history. According to the blood libel legend, Jews murdered Christian infants to obtain blood to make matzah. Dundes has gathered here the work of leading scholars who examine the varied sources and elaborations of the legend. Collectively, their essays constitute a forceful statement against this false accusation. The legend is traced from the murder of William of Norwich in 1144, one of the first reported cases of ritualized murder

attributed to Jews, through nineteenth-century Egyptian reports, Spanish examples, Catholic periodicals, modern English instances, and twentieth-century American cases. The essays deal not only with historical cases and surveys of blood libel in different locales, but also with literary renditions of the legend, including the ballad "Sir Hugh, or, the Jew's Daughter" and Chaucer's "The Prioress's Tale." These case studies provide a comprehensive view of the complex nature of the blood libel legend. The concluding section of the volume includes an analysis of the legend that focuses on Christian misunderstanding of the Jewish feast of Purim and the child abuse component of the legend and that attempts to bring psychoanalytic theory to bear on the content of the blood libel legend. The final essay by Alan Dundes takes a distinctly folkloristic approach, examining the legend as part of the belief system that Christians developed about Jews. This study of the blood libel legend will interest folklorists, scholars of Catholicism and Judaism, and many general readers, for it is both the literature and the history of anti-Semitism.
