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Nota di contenuto	Chapter 1. Introduction -- Part I: Building a Model of Poetics in Bioarchaeology -- Chapter 2. Poetics and Identity -- Chapter 3. Bioarchaeology and the Bodies -- Chapter 4. Mortuary archaeology: what do we learn from mortuary contexts? -- Chapter 5. The Poetics of Processing: Bodies as Cultural Media -- Part II: Applying the Model -- Chapter 6. Preservation as Processing -- Chapter 7. Inhumation and Cremation -- Chapter 8. A few famous cemeteries -- Chapter 9. The (in)famous Dead -- Part III: Modern Interactions with the Dead -- Chapter 10. Cremation and the disposal of ashes -- Chapter 11. Modern Interactions with the Dead -- Chapter 12. Modern Memorialization -- Part IV: Bodies and Politics -- Chapter 13. Nation Building with Bodies -- Chapter 14. NAGPRA, Sovereignty, and the Ancestors -- Part V: Bodies and Material Culture -- Chapter 15. The Body in Education, Art, and Religion -- Chapter 16. Relics and Reliquaries -- Chapter 17. Wrapping Up: the Poetics of Mortuary Performance and Us.
Sommario/riassunto	This book examines the intricate relationships between the living and the dead, revealing how these interactions shape group identities and facilitate ongoing negotiations of self and community. Beginning with a

rich exploration of bioarchaeological theories, this volume introduces an enriched Poetics model, which deepens our understanding of not just skeletal remains, but the broader contexts that imbue bodies with social significance and how those bodies in turn can produce socially significant changes. By emphasizing the roles of performance and ritual, the work illustrates how the dead serve as powerful tools in the creation and maintenance of social structures. Through compelling case studies of ancient and modern mortuary practices, it highlights the changing meanings of the body across different historical and cultural landscapes. The volume demonstrates that while our interpretations may shift, the body remains a profound source of meaning and identity. By analyzing patterns of modification and representation, this book provides invaluable insights into social change and how group identity is forged.
