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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	""Cover""; ""Contents""; ""Preface: A Thanatological Odyssey""; ""Introduction""; ""About the Editors""; ""About the Contributors""; ""VOLUME ONE: THE PRESENCE OF DEATH""; ""Part I - DEATH IN CULTURAL CONTEXT""; ""CONFRONTING DEATH""; ""Chapter 1 - The Universal Fear of Death and the Cultural Response""; ""Chapter 2 - Historical Changes in the Meaning of Death in the Western Tradition""; ""Chapter 3 - Dealing With Death: Western Philosophical Strategies""; ""Chapter 4 - Death Denial: Hiding and Camouflaging Death""; ""Chapter 5 - Death, Dying, and the Dead in Popular Culture""; ""Chapter 6 - The Death Awareness Movement: Description, History, and Analysis""""KEEPING THE DEAD ALIVE""; ""Chapter 7 - The Spiritualist Movement: Bringing the Dead Back""; ""Chapter 8 - Reincarnation: The Technology of Death""; ""Chapter 9 - Hosts and Ghosts: The Dead as Visitors in Cross-Cultural Perspective""; ""Chapter 10 - Ghosts: The Dead Among Us""; ""Chapter 11 - The Malevolent ""Undead"": Cross-Cultural Perspectives""; ""TRANSCENDING DEATH: RELIGIOUS AFTER-DEATH BELIEFS""; ""Chapter 12 - Spirituality""; ""Chapter 13 - Religion and the Mediation of Death Fear""; ""Chapter 14 - Christian Beliefs Concerning Death and Life After

Death""Chapter 15 - Near-Death Experiences as Secular Eschatology""; ""DEATH AND SOCIAL EXCHANGE""; ""Chapter 16 - Life Insurance as Social Exchange Mechanism""; ""Chapter 17 - ""Full Military Honors"": Ceremonial Interment as Sacred Compact""; ""Chapter 18 - Symbolic Immortality and Social Theory: The Relevance of an Underutilized Concept""; ""Part II - DEATH IN SOCIAL CONTEXT: VARIANTS IN MORALITY AND MEANING""; ""THE SOCIAL MODES OF DEATH: THE IMPORT OF CONTEXT AND CIRCUMSTANCE"" ""Chapter 19 - Historical and Epidemiological Trends in Mortality in the United States""""Chapter 20 - Global Mortality Rates: Variations and Their Consequences for the Experience of Dying""; ""Chapter 21 - To Die, by Mistake: Accidental Deaths""; ""Chapter 22 - Megadeaths: Individual Reactions and Social Responses to Massive Loss of Life""; ""Chapter 23 - On the Role and Meaning of Death in Terrorism""; ""Chapter 24 - Death Attributed to Medical Error""; ""Chapter 25 - Homicidal Death""; ""PRE-PERSONALITY DEATHS"" ""Chapter 26 - Pre-Personality Pregnancy Losses: Miscarriages, Stillbirths, and Abortions""""Chapter 27 - Sudden Infant Death Syndrome""; ""DEATH AS SOCIAL ENTITY: THE SOCIAL CONSTRUCTION OF DEATH""; ""Chapter 28 - The Evolution of the Legal Definition of Death""; ""Chapter 29 - Death Education""; ""DEATH AS INTERMISSION: THE CONTINUATION OF IDENTITY""; ""Chapter 30 - The Postself in Social Context""; ""Part III - DEATH AND SOCIAL CONTROVERSY""; ""SUICIDE""; ""Chapter 31 - Historical Suicide""; ""Chapter 32 - Suicide and Suicide Trends in the United States, 1900-1999"" ""Chapter 33 - Suicide Survivors: The Aftermath of Suicide and Suicidal Behavior""

## Sommario/riassunto

The 'Handbook of Death and Dying' takes stock of the vast literature in the field of thanatology, arranging & synthesizing what has been an unwieldy body of knowledge into a concise, yet comprehensive reference work.