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Autore	Naiden F. S
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Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (438 p.)
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Soggetti	Animal sacrifice - Greece Animal sacrifice - Rome Greece Religion Rome Religion
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
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Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and indexes.
Nota di contenuto	Invention of a ritual -- Venues and offerings -- Prayers and answers -- God says no -- Rules, rewards, and experts -- Markets and messes -- Detective story -- Demise of a ritual.
Sommario/riassunto	Animal sacrifice has been critical to the study of ancient Mediterranean religions since the 18th century. Two leading views on sacrifice have dominated the subject: the psychological approach of Walter Burkert and the sociological one by Jean-Pierre Vernant and Marcel Detienne. These two perspectives have argued that the main feature of sacrifice is allaying feelings of guilt at the slaughter of sacrificial animals. Naiden redresses the omission of these salient features to show that animal sacrifice is an attempt to make contact with a divine being, and that it is so important for the worshippers that it becomes subject to regulations of unequaled extent and complexity.