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Autore	Adams Peter J
Titolo	How to Talk About Spiritual Encounters / / by Peter J. Adams
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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Chapter 1 Introduction Café Capri -- Chapter 2 Describing Encounters -- Chapter 3. Trouble Talking -- Chapter 4 Making It Happen? -- Chapter 5 Collecting Specimens -- Chapter 6 The Rhetorical Turn -- Chapter 7 Big Devices, Little Devices -- Chapter 8 Expressive Vagueness -- Chapter 9 Provocative Gaps -- Chapter 10 Gaps by Missing Content -- Chapter 11 Gaps by Grammatical Shifts -- Chapter 12 Gaps by Metaphor -- Chapter 13 Gaps by Marking -- Chapter 14 Counting Exercises -- Chapter 15 Are they Unique? -- Chapter 16 God-Talk -- Chapter 17 Reducing Reluctance -- Chapter 18 Device Play -- Chapter 19 Creating a Description -- Chapter 20 Practitioner Opportunities -- Chapter 21 Fostering Gap Talk -- Chapter 22 Postscript.
Sommario/riassunto	This book develops a new and innovative way of understanding how language is used when people describe their spiritual and mystical encounters. Early chapters provide overviews of the nature of spiritual encounters, how commonly they occur, and the role of language. The book then develops a unique way of understanding the dynamics of

talking about spirituality, using original research to supports this perspective. In particular, Peter J. Adams explores how this characteristically vague way of speaking can be viewed as an intentional and not an incidental aspect of such communications because certain types of vagueness have the capacity to engage the imaginative participation of receptive listeners. This expressive vagueness is achieved by embedding missing bits, or "gaps", in the flow of what is described and these in turn provide sites for listeners to insert their own content. Later chapters focus on practical ways people (including helping professionals) can improve their skills in talking about their spiritual encounters. All content is situated in café conversations between four people each of whom is, in their own way, concerned with the challenges they face in converting the content of their encounters into words.