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Titolo	The language of comic narratives [[electronic resource] ] : humor construction in short stories // by Isabel Ermida
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Berlin ; ; New York, : Mouton de Gruyter, c2008
ISBN	1-281-99353-0 9786611993535 3-11-020833-4
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (274 p.)
Collana	Humor research, , 1861-4116 ; ; 9
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Soggetti	Humor in literature Short story - Authorship
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Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [237]-256) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- List of tables and figures -- Foreword -- Chapter 1. The concept of humor: history, scope and issues -- Chapter 2. Linguistic resources of humor -- Chapter 3. Humor as a textual genre: from jokes to comic narratives -- Chapter 4. Structural principles of narrative humor -- Chapter 5. Pragmatics of the humorous narrative -- Chapter 6. A model of humorous narratives -- Chapter 7. Extending the analysis -- Backmatter
Sommario/riassunto	The book offers a comprehensive account of how humor works in short stories, by presenting a model of narrative comedy that is pragmatically as well as semantically, grammatically and stylistically informed. It is the first study to combine a sequential analysis of the comic short story with a hierarchical one, merging together horizontal and vertical narratological perspectives in a systematic way. The book covers the main areas of linguistic analysis and is deliberately interdisciplinary, using input from philosophy, sociology and psychology so as to touch upon the nature, motivations and functions of humor as a cognitive phenomenon in a social context. Crucially, The Language of Comic Narratives combines a scholarly approach with a careful explanation of key terms and concepts, making it accessible to researchers and students, as well as non-specialists. Moreover, it reviews a broad range

of historical critical data by examining the source texts, and it provides many humorous examples, from jokes to extracts from comic narratives. Thus, it seeks to anchor theory in specific texts, and also to show that many linguistic mechanisms of humor are common to jokes and longer, literary comic narratives. The book tests the model of humorous narratives on a set of comic short stories by British and American writers, ranging from Evelyn Waugh and Dorothy Parker, through Graham Greene and Corey Ford, to David Lodge and Woody Allen. The validity of the model is confirmed through a subsequent discussion of apparent counter-examples.

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