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Nota di contenuto	Book Cover; Title; Contents; Acknowledgements; Introduction: First Conversational Steps; Structural Simplicities The Grammar and Context of Narrative; Force, Fiction, Fit and Felicity Narrative as a Speech Act; Performatives, Perlocutions, Pretence Deconstruction and the Narrative Speech Act; Cooperative Conventions Implied Meanings in Narrative; Rationality and Relevance Mental Codes and Cultural Memes in Narrative; Turns at Talk Ethnomethodological Analysis of Narrative; Self, State and Solidarity The Politics of Narrative; Explaining Enigmas from Evidence The Cause of Narrative Conclusion: Final Narrative SutrasThe Flood; Transcription and Translation; Putative Emotive and Emotional Registers An Evolutionary Perspective; Placements; A Possible Course on Narrative Based on this Book; Bibliography; Index
Sommario/riassunto	In this elegantly written and theoretically sophisticated work, Rukmini Bhaya Nair asks why human beings across the world are such compulsive and inventive storytellers. Extending current research in cognitive science and narratology, she argues that we seem to have a

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genetic drive to fabricate as a way of gaining the competitive advantages such fictions give us. She suggests that stories are a means of fusing causal and logical explanations of 'real' events with emotional recognition, so that the lessons taught to us as children, and then throughout our lives via stories, lay the cornerstones