

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910792051303321
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Titolo	Inside jokes : using humor to reverse-engineer the mind // Matthew M. Hurley, Daniel C. Dennett, and Reginald B. Adams
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge, Mass., : MIT Press, ©2011
ISBN	0-262-29481-8 1-299-28430-2 0-262-30355-8
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (374 p.)
Altri autori (Persone)	DennettD. C (Daniel Clement) AdamsReginald B
Disciplina	152.4/3
Soggetti	Laughter - Psychological aspects Laughter - Philosophy Wit and humor - Psychological aspects Wit and humor - Philosophy
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [305]-328) and index.
Nota di contenuto	What is humor for? -- The phenomenology of humor -- A brief history of humor theories -- Twenty questions for a cognitive and evolutionary theory of humor -- Emotion and computation -- A mind that can sustain humor -- Humor and mirth -- Higher order humor -- Objections considered -- The penumbra : non-jokes, bad jokes, and near-humor -- But why do we laugh? -- The punch line.
Sommario/riassunto	Some things are funny -- jokes, puns, sitcoms, Charlie Chaplin, The Far Side, Malvolio with his yellow garters crossed -- but why? Why does humor exist in the first place? Why do we spend so much of our time passing on amusing anecdotes, making wisecracks, watching The Simpsons? In Inside Jokes, Matthew Hurley, Daniel Dennett, and Reginald Adams offer an evolutionary and cognitive perspective. Humor, they propose, evolved out of a computational problem that arose when our long-ago ancestors were furnished with open-ended thinking. Mother Nature -- aka natural selection -- cannot just order the brain to find and fix all our time-pressured misleaps and near-misses. She has to bribe the brain with pleasure. So we find them

funny. This wired-in source of pleasure has been tickled relentlessly by humorists over the centuries, and we have become addicted to the endogenous mind candy that is humor.

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