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Autore	Hutcheon Linda <1947->
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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Preface -- Introduction -- Modes & Forms of Narrative Narcissism: Introduction of a Typology -- Process & Product: The Implications of Metafiction for the Theory of the Novel as a Mimetic Genre -- Thematizing Narrative Artifice: Parody, Allegory, & the Mise En Abyme -- Freedom Through Artifice: The French Lieutenants Woman -- Actualizing Narrative Structures: Detective Plot, Fantasy, Games, & the Erotic -- The Language of Fiction: Creating the Heterocosm of Fictive Referents -- The Theme of Linguistic identity: La Maccina Modiale -- Generative Word Play: The Outer Limits of the Novel Genre -- Composite Identity: The Reader, the Writer, the Critic -- Conclusion & Speculations.
Sommario/riassunto	Linda Hutcheon, in this original study, examines the modes, forms and techniques of narcissistic fiction, that is, fiction which includes within itself some sort of commentary on its own narrative and/or linguistic nature. Her analysis is further extended to discuss the implications of such a development for both the theory of the novel and reading

theory. Having placed this phenomenon in its historical context Linda Hutcheon uses the insights of various reader-response theories to explore the "paradox" created by metafiction: the reader is, at the same time, co-creator of the sel
