



Literary Fiction: The Ways We Read Narrative Literature

By Geir Farnner

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Insofar as literary theory has addressed the issue of literature as a means of communication and the function of literary fiction, opinions have been sharply divided, indicating that the elementary foundations of literary theory and criticism still need clarifying. Many of the "classical" problems that literary theory has been grappling with from Aristotle to our time are still waiting for a satisfactory solution.

Based on a new cognitive model of literature as communication, Farnner systematically explains how literary fiction works, providing new solutions to a wide range of literary issues, like intention, function, evaluation, delimitation of the literary work as such, fictionality, suspense, and the roles of author and narrator, along with such narratological problems as voice, point of view and duration.

Covering a wide range of literary issues central to literary theory, offering new theories while also summarising the field as it stands, *Literary Fiction* will be a valuable guide and resource for students and scholars of the theory of literature.

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Editorial Review

Review

“An engaging read, Farnar's *Literary Fiction* is an exhaustive retelling of the development of the various schools of literary criticism, from post-WW II domination of New Criticism through the wave of semioticians, political ideologues, and then finally the post-postmodernists, who see literary criticism as a rainbow palette from which one may blend critical approaches. The volume presents a rewarding continental perspective of modern "lit crit." The book will prove useful as a backgrounder or as a brief refresher. Summing Up: Recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty.” *D. L. Hadaller, Bronx Community College, CHOICE*

About the Author

Geir Farnar is Professor of Dutch Language and Literature in the Department of Literature, Area Studies and European Languages (ILOS) at the University of Oslo, Norway.

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