

Psychonarratology

*Foundations for the Empirical Study
of Literary Response*

MARISA BORTOLUSSI

University of Alberta

PETER DIXON

University of Alberta



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Contents

<i>List of Figures and Tables</i>	<i>page x</i>
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	<i>xiii</i>
1 Introduction	1
The Study of Narrative	1
Objectives	3
Reader-Oriented Literary Studies	5
Narratology	10
Discourse Processing	13
Linguistics	18
Empirical Research on Literature	21
Psychonarratology	24
Summary	32
2 Preliminaries	34
The Domain of Psychonarratology	35
Features and Constructions	37
The Statistical Reader	43
Theory and Explanation	49
The Textual Experiment	51
Identifying Meaningful Relationships	57
Summary	59
3 The Narrator	60
Previous Analytical Concepts of the Narrator	61
Narrative and Communication	66
Narrator as Reader Construction	72
Processing the Narrator	80

	Identifying with the Narrator	84
	Summary	95
4	Events and Plot	97
	Story Versus Discourse	98
	Plot Structure in the Discourse	99
	Plot Structure in the Story	109
	Plot Structure in the Reader	116
	Textual Features for Plot	119
	Reader Constructions for Plot	124
	Summary	131
5	Characters and Characterization	133
	Theories of Literary Character	133
	Social Cognition	141
	Characterization Features	149
	A Framework for Character Constructions	152
	Informativeness of Story-World Actions	160
	Summary	164
6	Perception and Focalization	166
	Narratological Approaches to Focalization	166
	Problems in the Theory of Focalization	169
	Psychological Approaches to Perspective	178
	A Psychonarratological Approach to Focalization	184
	Textual Features for Focalization	185
	Reader Constructions for Focalization	191
	Summary	198
7	Represented Speech and Thought	200
	Basic Distinctions	201
	Approaches to Speech and Thought in Narrative	210
	Features in the Depiction of Speech and Thought	220
	Representing Intended Messages	223
	Free-Indirect Speech and Intended Manner	229
	Summary	235
8	Directions and Unsolved Problems	237
	The Psychonarratology Approach	238
	Unsolved Problems	240
	Other Directions	248
	Related Applications	254
	Summary	258

Appendix: Evaluating Evidence	261
Experimental Design	261
Analyzing Results	263
Calculating Likelihood Ratios	265
<i>References</i>	275
<i>Index</i>	295