



Narrative and Genre: Key Concepts in Media Studies

By Nick Lacey

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Narrative and Genre introduces students to two key concepts in Media Studies, complementing *Image and Representation* published in 1998. The book covers the major narrative theorists and is illustrated with numerous case studies including *The X-Files*, *Wuthering Heights*, *Se7en*, and newspaper reporting. A brief history of narrative in literature surveys text from *The Epic of Gilgamesh* to Paul Auster's postmodern *Ghost*. The section on genre offers exhaustive case studies on *film noir* and the "hard-boiled" detective novel, the TV cop genre, and soap opera.

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Review

'The second in the Key Concepts series, this clearly presented textbook should reassure A-level pupils new to the subject and yet avoid patronising undergraduates. The exercises are humorously presented and Lacey negotiates the complexities of narrative theory with confidence.' - Sight and Sound 'An admirable effort at achieving a balance between the complexity of the codes and conventions and the need for accessibility.' - Des Murphy, Media Education Journal 'A logically organised and concise introduction to the basic ideas related to narrative and genre. The book 'works' because it is structured the way the material might be taught - in a cumulative manner... His strategy for interweaving concrete examples and theoretical concepts is particularly effective. Its exercises have been thoughtfully conceived to encourage students to think laterally about the concepts.' - Laurie E. Harnick, Scope

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About the Author

Nick Lacey is head of Media Studies at Benton Park School in West Yorkshire.

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