



MYTHICAL
TRICKSTER
FIGURES

Contours, Contexts, and Criticisms

EDITED BY WILLIAM J. DYNES AND WILLIAM G. DOTT

Mythical Trickster Figures Contours Contexts And Criticisms

Melissa Jackson



Mythical Trickster Figures Contours Contexts And Criticisms:

Mythical Trickster Figures William J. Hynes, William G. Doty, 1993-01-30 *Mythical Trickster Figures* is the first substantial collection of essays about the trickster to appear since Radin's 1955 *The Trickster Contributions* by leading scholars treat a wide range of manifestations of this mischievous character ranging from the Coyote of the American Southwest to such African figures as Eshu Elegba and Ananse the Japanese Susano-o the Greek Hermes Christian adaptations of Saint Peter and examples found in contemporary American fiction and drama The many humorous trickster stories included are fascinating in themselves but Hynes and Doty also highlight the wide range of features of the trickster the figure whose comic appearance often signifies that the most serious cultural values are being both challenged and enforced William J. Hynes is Vice President for Academic Affairs and Professor of Religious Studies at Saint Mary's College of California William G. Doty is Professor of Religious Studies at The University of Alabama and the author of *Mythography The Study of Myths and Rituals* also published by The University of Alabama Press

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The Trickster Brain David Williams, 2012-05-29 Until recently scientific and literary cultures have existed side by side but most often in parallel universes without connection *The Trickster Brain Neuroscience Evolution and Nature* by David Williams addresses the premise that humans are a biological species stemming from the long process of evolution and that we do exhibit a universal human nature given to us through our genes From this perspective literature is shown to be a product of our biological selves By exploring central ideas in neuroscience evolutionary biology linguistics music philosophy ethics religion and history Williams shows that it is the circuitry of the brain's hard wired dispositions that continually create similar tales around the world archetypal stories reflecting ancient tensions that arose from our evolutionary past and the very construction of our brains The book asserts that to truly understand literature one must look at the biological creature creating it By using the lens of science to examine literature we can see how stories reveal universal aspects of the biological mind The Trickster character is particularly instructive as an archetypal character who embodies a raft of human traits and

concerns for Trickster is often god devil musical sexual silver tongued animal and human at once treading upon the moral dictates of culture Williams brings together science and the humanities demonstrating a critical way of approaching literature that incorporates scientific thought

Comedy and Feminist Interpretation of the Hebrew Bible Melissa Jackson, 2012-07-26 This book explores the Hebrew Bible for evidence of comedy and further asks how reading the Hebrew Bible through a comic lens might positively inform feminist interpretation The exploration is conducted with a number of Hebrew Bible narratives all of which prominently involve female characters

The Politics of Joking Jana Kopelent Rehak, Susanna Trnka, 2018-10-25 This book engages anthropologically with humor as political expression It reveals how humor is in many instances central to human efforts to cope with political struggle and significant to understanding power dynamics in socio political life The chapters examine humor and joking activities across a diverse range of geographic areas and cultural contexts The contributors consider humor as it is constituted in political anxiety aggression and power and when it becomes a tool to resist repair reconcile or make a moral claim Collectively they demonstrate that humor can provide a powerful critique a non violent form of political protest and the space for restoration of human dignity

Anthropology and Cryptozoology Samantha Hurn, 2016-11-03 Cryptozoology is best understood as the study of animals which in the eyes of Western science are extinct unclassified or unrecognised In consequence and in part because of its selective methods and lack of epistemological rigour cryptozoology is often dismissed as a pseudo science However there is a growing recognition that social science can benefit from engaging with it for as social scientists are very well aware scientific categorisation and explanation represents just one of a myriad of systems used by humans to enable them to classify and make sense of the world around them In many cultural contexts myth folk classification and lived experience challenge the truth expounded by scientists With a reflexive anthropological approach and drawing on rich empirical and ethnographic studies from around the world this volume engages with the theoretical and methodological issues raised by reported sightings of unrecognised animals Bringing into sharp focus the anthropological value and challenges for methodology posed by beliefs about unclassified creatures Anthropology and Cryptozoology Exploring encounters with mysterious creatures will be of interest to anthropologists sociologists and geographers working in the fields of research methods anthrozoology mythology and folklore and human animal interaction

Betwixt & Between James C. Conroy, 2004 Both neo liberal and Third Way politicians and pundits have come to accept globalisation as the key determinant of social and political organization Consequently they have confused government's role in the liberal democratic state with that of the globalised corporation The result has been a discursive closure about what counts as human flourishing and about the nature of the educational provision which best serves such flourishing which is co terminous with economic success This book offers both a challenge to such an equivalence and an understanding of the dispositions and practices that are necessary for education to sustain a robust and invigorating openness in and for democracy From an oblique and whimsical perspective *Betwixt and Between* renovates a

range of playful and interesting metaphors rooted in experiences and encounters with and at the limen or threshold In doing so it weaves through laughter trickster poetry and religion **Excess and Embodiment in Contemporary Women's**

Writing Zeynep Zeren Atayurt,2011-08-01 The obese female body has often been portrayed as the other to the slender body However this process of othering or viewing as different has created a repressive discourse where excess has increasingly come to be studied as a physical abnormality or a signifier of a personality defect in contemporary Western society This book engages with the multifarious re imaginings of the excessive embodiment in contemporary women s writing drawing specifically on the construction of this form of embodiment in the works of Fay Weldon Jeanette Winterson Margaret Atwood Claude Tardat and Judith Moore whose texts offer a distinct literary response to the rigidly homogeneous and limiting representations of fatness while prompting heterogeneous approaches to reading the excessive female embodiment

American Tricksters William J. Jackson,2014-12-18 Tricksters are known by their deeds Obviously not all the examples in American Tricksters are full blown mythological tricksters like Coyote Raven or the Two Brothers found in Native American stories or superhuman figures like the larger than life Davy Crockett of nineteenth century tales Newer expressions of trickiness do share some qualities with the Trickster archetype seen in myths Rock stars who break taboos and get away with it heroes who overcome monstrous circumstances crafty folk who find a way to survive and thrive when the odds are against them men making spectacles of themselves by feeding their astounding appetites in public all have some trickster qualities Each person every living creature who ever faced an obstacle and needed to get around it has found the built in trickster impulse Impasses turn the trickster gene on or stimulate the trick performing imagination that s life To explore the ways and means of trickster maneuvers can alert us to pitfalls help us appreciate tricks that are entertaining and aid us in fending off ploys which drain our resources and ruin our lives Knowing more about the Trickster archetype in our psyches helps us be more self aware

Navajo Talking Picture Randolph Lewis,2012-07-01 Navajo Talking Picture released in 1985 is one of the earliest and most controversial works of Native cinema It is a documentary by Los Angeles filmmaker Arlene Bowman who travels to the Navajo reservation to record the traditional ways of her grandmother in order to understand her own cultural heritage For reasons that have often confused viewers the filmmaker persists despite her traditional grandmother s forceful objections to the apparent invasion of her privacy What emerges is a strange and thought provoking work that abruptly calls into question the issue of insider versus outsider and other assumptions that have obscured the complexities of Native art Randolph Lewis offers an insightful introduction and analysis of Navajo Talking Picture in which he shows that it is not simply the first Navajo produced film but also a path breaking work in the history of indigenous media in the United States Placing the film in a number of revealing contexts including the long history of Navajo people working in Hollywood the ethics of documentary filmmaking and the often problematic reception of Native art Lewis explores the tensions and mysteries hidden in this unsettling but fascinating film

Mythical Trickster Figures Contours Contexts And Criticisms Book Review: Unveiling the Power of Words

In a global driven by information and connectivity, the power of words has be more evident than ever. They have the ability to inspire, provoke, and ignite change. Such may be the essence of the book **Mythical Trickster Figures Contours Contexts And Criticisms**, a literary masterpiece that delves deep into the significance of words and their affect our lives. Compiled by a renowned author, this captivating work takes readers on a transformative journey, unraveling the secrets and potential behind every word. In this review, we shall explore the book is key themes, examine its writing style, and analyze its overall effect on readers.

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