Free ebook Il sistema periodico einaudi tascabili scrittori (Download Only)

elegant beautifully written literary criticism examining how eight major writers from tolstoy to primo levi dealt with death in their fiction the wall street journal all art and the love of art victor brombert writes at the beginning of the deeply personal musings on mortality allow us to negate our nothingness as a young man returning from world war ii brombert came to understand this truth as he immersed himself in literature death can be found everywhere in literature he saw but literature itself is on the side of life with delicacy and penetrating insight brombert traces the theme of mortality in the work of a group of modern writers leo tolstoy thomas mann franz kafka virginia woolf albert camus giorgio bassani j m coetzee and primo levi illuminating their views on the meaning of life and the human condition brombert ultimately reveals that by understanding how these authors wrote about mortality we can grasp the full scope of their literary achievement and vision winner of the robert penn warren cleanth brooks award for outstanding literary criticism suffused with wisdom and argued with the strong hand of a weathered and feeling literary scholar it is hard to imagine such thematic criticism being done better than here what a beautiful book thomas harrison author of 1910 the emancipation of dissonance a brave and eloquent book peter brooks author of henry james goes to paris the simplicity and directness of brombert s style gives his discussion of the philosophical and aesthetic underpinnings of the works under scrutiny great clarity publishers weekly brombert s eloquently written book is for serious lovers of literature library journal in an age of upheaval and challenged faith traditional heroes are hard to come by and harder still to love with their bloodstained hands and backs unbowed by the consequences of their actions through penetrating readings of key works of modern european literature victor brombert shows how a new kind of hero the antihero has arisen to replace the toppled heroic model though they fail by design to live up to conventional expectations of mythic heroes antiheroes are not necessarily failures they display different kinds of courage more in tune with our time and our needs deficiency translated into strength failure experienced as honesty dignity achieved through humiliation brombert explores these paradoxes in the works of büchner gogol dostoevsky flaubert svevo hašek frisch camus and levi coming from diverse cultural and linguistic traditions these writers all use the figure of the antihero to question handed down assumptions to reexamine moral categories and to raise issues of survival and renewal embodying the spirit of an uneasy age as one of the best known survivors of the concentration camps primo levi s testimony to his experiences in auschwitz is internationally recognised as one of the most significant works of the last century this volume examines each of levi s works in detail assessing and analysing the influence of levi s time in auschwitz on his writing it identifies a variety of thematic temporal stylistic and linguistic echoes of levi s

concentration camp testimony and traces these echoes throughout his subsequent apparently unrelated work the book provides original and fascinating insights into the works of this remarkable writer giving readers a new understanding and perspective on the immense significance and the pervasive influence of the holocaust on levi s creative output primo levi 1919 1987 is one of italy s most distinguished writers a survivor of the holocaust his memoirs on the nazi death camps if this is a man and the truce are internationally recognized as among the most powerful and profound testimonies to have come out of the extermination of european jewry this book is the first comprehensive introduction to levi and his writing for english speaking readers the author draws attention to the literary worth of levi s entire output not just the holocaust testimonies for which he is primarily known and situates his works in the context of italian culture and society from the 1920s to the 1980s a man with many identities chemist industrial manager and writer he tried through his writing to build bridges between different cultures and fields of enquiry primo levi holocaust survivor and renowned memoirist is one of the most widely read writers of post world war ii italy his works are characterized by the lean dispassionate eloquence with which he approaches his experience of incarceration in auschwitz his memoirs as well as his poetry and fiction and his many interviews are often taught in several fields including jewish studies and holocaust studies comparative literature and italian language and literature and can enrich the study of history psychology and philosophy the first part of this volume provides instructors with an overview of the available editions anthologies and translations of levi s work and identifies other useful classroom aids such as films music and online resources in the second part contributors describe different approaches to teaching levi s work some in presenting survival in auschwitz the reawakening and the drowned and the saved look at the place of style in holocaust testimony and the reliability of memory in autobiography others focus on questions of translation complicated by the untranslatable in the language and experiences of the concentration camps or on how levi incorporates his background as a chemist into his writing most clearly in the periodic table judith kelly looks at levi s work in the context of testimonial literature and examines the linguistic expression of the author s auschwitz experience the moral and philosophical nature of humanity within the camp is investigated in particular there is a comparison between if this is man and a co authored medico scientific report and a consideration of sources and motifs which provide the cultural framework for the authors expression of his experiences the author has developed a star of salvaction a diagram in the shape of a star of david in which each of the six points leads to a strategy levi learned for seeking meaning and thereby salvation in the misery of auschwitz with its concise overview of levi s expression and development as a writer a centaur in auschwitz reveals primo levi for what he was scientist intellectual jew and dedicated seeker of the roots of human dignity jacket this innovative reading of primo levi s work offers the first sustained analysis in english of his representations of bodies and embodiment discussion spans the range of levi s works from testimony to journalism from essays to science fiction stories identifying and tracing multiple narratives of embodiment and

disembodiment across his oeuvre these narratives range from the abject disembodied condition of prisoners in auschwitz to posthuman or cyborg individuals whose bodies merge with technological devices levi s representations of bodies are explored in relation to theories of embodiment and posthumanism bringing his work into new dialogue with critical discourses on these issues taking inspiration from levi s definition of the human being as a constructor of containers as well as from the recurring references to both material and metaphorical containing structures in his work the book suggests that for levi embodiment involves constant negotiations of containment he depicts the complex relationships between physical and social bodies the material and the immaterial self the conscious and unconscious subject the organic and the technologically enhanced body engaging with evolving understandings of the boundaries of the body the self and the human over the course of more than twenty five years primo levi gave more than two hundred newspaper journal radio and television interviews speaking with such varied authors as philip roth and germaine greer marco belpoliti and robert gordon have selected and translated thirty six of the most important of these interviews for the voice of memory primo levi 1919 87 was the author of a rich body of work including memoirs and reflections on auschwitz poetry science fiction historical fiction and essays in particular his lucid and direct accounts of his time at auschwitz begun immediately after liberation in 1945 and sustained until weeks before his suicide in 1987 has made him one of the most admired of all holocaust writer survivors and one of the best guides we have for the interrogation of that horrific event but there is also more to levi than the voice of the witness he has increasingly come to be recognised as one of the major literary voices of the twentieth century this companion brings together leading specialists on levi and scholars in the fields of holocaust studies italian literature and language and literature and science to offer a stimulating introduction to all aspects of the work of this extraordinary writer one of the best literary biographies of the year superb levi i think would have appreciated it observer re issued to mark the centenary of primo levi s birth now featuring a new introduction from the author discover the definitive biography of the iconic writer and holocaust survivor on 11 april 1987 the italian writer and chemist primo levi fell to his death in the house where he was born more than forty years after his rescue from a nazi concentration camp it seemed that levi had taken his own life his account of auschwitz if this is a man is recognised as one of the essential books of mankind ian thomson spent over ten years in italy and elsewhere researching and writing this matchless biography this incomparable book unravels the strands of a life caught between the factory and the typewriter family and friends deeply researched it sheds new light on levi s recurring depressions and unearths vital information about his premature death how do we represent ouselves and the cultures we live in is it possible to trace any boundaries between reality and self representation because the self represented is the product of a process of selection and choice in many ways to represent the self is often simultaneously to create the self and negate the self what then becomes of the self once it is represented because the process of self representation cumulates in a tangible result and given that any representation of the self is necessarily a construct

which aims to render visible or knowable in concrete form the unseen and unknown self representation is vulnerable to assessments of its naturalness or artificiality its honesty or deceit many issues affect the author or artist s self representation both as process and form the medium through which the self will be represented the motivation for representing oneself and the role of the audience to name only a few relevant factors this book explores the multifaceted nature of self representation in relation to culture from the middle ages through the renaissance up to contemporary italian american and australian culture with reference to concepts and questions connected to literature poetry philosophy theology history ethnicity studies gender studies and visual arts situated at the intersection of animal studies and literary theory this book explores the remarkable and subtly pervasive web of animal imagery metaphors and concepts in the work of the jewish italian writer chemist and holocaust survivor primo levi 1919 1987 relatively unexamined by scholars the complex and extensive animal imagery levi employed in his literary works offers new insights into the aesthetical and ethical function of testimony as well as an original perspective on contemporary debates surrounding human animal relationships and posthumanism the three main sections that compose the book mirror levi s approach to non human animals and animality from an unquestionable bio ethical origin suffering through an investigation of the relationships between writing technology and animality techne to a creative intellectual project in which literary animals both counterbalance the inevitable suffering of all creatures and suggest a transformative image of interspecific community creation the legacy of antifascist partisan auschwitz survivor and author primo levi continues to drive exciting interdisciplinary scholarship the contributions to this intellectually rich tightly organized volume from many of the world s foremost levi scholars show a remarkable breadth across fields as varied as ethics memory and media studies in this study of primo levi s if this is a man se questo è un uomo the author tries to give some sense of the historical and cultural context not just of levi s book but also of the events which gave rise to it since it is to those events that levi is directing us for the same reason suggestions for further reading mainly concentrate on history while looking at some of the many literary influences on levi s book particularly that of dante s inferno this book also places it in the literature of survivor accounts the author has drawn widely on levi s other writings both because if this is a man has to be seen as the beginning of a lifetime s endeavour and because in the absence of a definitive body of criticism levi remains the best explicator of his own work this book is intended both for the student of italian and for the general reader all quotations from if this is a man and all verse quotations are given both in italian and in english while all other quotations from italian texts are given in english motherhood fatherland and primo levi the hidden groundwork of agency in his auschwitz writings offers major new insights into the political dimensions of levi s thought by using those texts conventionally thought to be marginal to his oeuvre i e his short works of science fiction and fantasy and his world war two partisan novel to deepen our understanding of the lessons he offered in his more well known and celebrated texts survival in auschwitz and the drowned and the saved typically cast as one of the most profound theorists of what human

beings at their worst can do to one another levi appears in this book as in addition a theorist who affirms a politics of active and broad participation in republican institutions as an important means of achieving a fulfilled human life this book reinterprets levi s political significance by bringing to bear two literatures that have been previously missing from scholarly considerations of levi s legacy psychologically informed analyses of how infantile and toddler experience of and relationship to a primary caretaker shape later perceptions of self and relationship and studies of machiavelli s variant of republican thought in which major emphasis is placed on founding institutions of civic participation that develop responsible political leaders and foster good citizenship in the aftermath of the so called arab spring which has given rise to people acting on their worst impulses ethnic cleansing genocide as well as on their best revolution democratic constitutionalism levi s legacy considered more comprehensively can be a valuable touchstone for understanding the democratic possibilities of a world undergoing rapid political change avoiding academic jargon and entanglement in hyper specialized academic debates motherhood fatherland and primo levi offers that comprehensive understanding to scholars across many fields italian studies political theory cultural studies women s studies holocaust studies history as well as to general interest readers of a humanistic bent and citizens concerned to make sense of this revolutionary age this anthology brings together scholars from literature the natural sciences and the philosophy of science to present new perspectives on the relations between literary and scientific communities drawing on literature spanning the 19th and 20th centuries as well as europe and the americas the authors explore how science has been portrayed from the perspective of literature at different times and in different places as challenge or opportunity promise or scandal the disturbance of science emanates perhaps from its association with a frightening future or its ability to change the appearance of the past the scandal occurs as it recalls us to thresholds and hybrids human and non human animal and machine science however also emerges as a source of metaphor and imaginative modelling of encodings and decodings representations and discoveries less prominent in the collection though no less important is the view on how scientific cultures portray literature or the literary academic and how science reflects on itself russo bullaro s collection focuses on benigni s oscar winning la vita e bella life is beautiful a film which has set off continuous and often bitter debate about holocaust representation and historical consciousness the topics covered in russo bullaro s collection offer insights from critics around the world in a forum for the consideration of the wider issues that benigni s films provoke this collection represents some of the latest research on primo levi the famous auschwitz survivor italian author in the field of italian studies holocaust studies jewish studies literary theory philosophy and ethics the author has collected an impressive group of scholars including ian thomson who has published a well received biography of levi in the uk a us edition is due this year alexander stille who is a staff writer got the new yorker as well as for the new york times he is also the author of benevolence and betrayal five italian jewish families under fascism and david mendel who knew levi and had an extensive correspondence with the italian writer there are four essays

on levi s complex and fertile theory of the gray zone and further essays on the myriad aspects of this thought this is an excellent collection with new perspectives and interpretations of the life and work of primo levi theoretical discussions of biography approaches from history microhistory and life writing offers comprehensive overviews by 14 academic scholars of the actual state of the field of biography studies specifically by connecting biography with microhistory journalism and life writing this book presents a baker s dozen of interpretative keys to levi s output and thought it deepens our understanding of common themes in levi studies memory and witness while exploring unusual and revealing byways levi and calvino or levi and theater for example what do cesare pavese beppe fenoglio and primo levi have in common apart from their obvious piedmontese origins they and other writers coming from this italian region share a certain tendency towards multilingualism which is a characteristic that has not been comprehensively investigated over the years this study presents a linguistic analysis of a group of modern and contemporary narratives written by piedmontese authors the novels and short stories here examined are notable for the intriguing way in which they move between a variety of idioms standard italian regional vernaculars english and pastiches with rare excursions into french with the support of linguistic and philosophical theories on the relation between identity alterity and language the book demonstrates how the use of non standard parlances is fundamental in both reinforcing the sense of belonging to specific social groups and highlighting the presence of dissimilar identities and other cultures a sociolinguistic study and an analysis of the political and historical context of the region are also provided in order to illustrate how the combination of different varieties in literature reflects the region s peripheral position as well as the political and social changes that have occurred in piedmont since the nineteenth century this book fills a notable gap and casts new light on piedmontese literature three italian epistolary novels looks at the development of a literary genre that flourished in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries and counted among its illustrious authors samuel richardson henry fielding pierre choderlos de laclos jean jacques rousseau and johann wolfgang von goethe these translations of three italian novels by foscolo de meis and piovene never offered before in a single study reflect social historical and stylistic aspects through 150 years of italian literature from the birth of a touching romantic story to the time of the new currents in italy and the period of world war ii the book is particularly suited for studies in italian european and comparative literature programs a commentary on the works of writers who survived the holocaust and wrote about their experiences e g primo levy jean amery bruno bettelheim nelly sachs paul celan interspersed with many quotations from their works discusses subjects such as hunger alienation the survivor and his literary work experience and testimony describes the history and nature of the italian race laws during the period 1938 43 when italy was independent of german control italy in the second world war alternative perspectives brings together fifteen international scholars to offer new contributions to the study of italian war experience both civilian and military during the second world war ethics after auschwitz primo levi s and elie wiesel s response demonstrates how after their horrific experiences in

auschwitz both primo levi and elie wiesel could have deservedly expressed rage and bitterness for the rest of their lives housed in the same barracks in the depths of hell a dark reality surpassing dante s vivid images portrayed in the inferno they chose to speak write and work for a better world never allowing the memory of those who did not survive to fade why and how did they make this choice what influenced their values before auschwitz and their moral decision making after it what can others who have suffered less devastating traumas learn from them the quest is in the question wiesel often tells his students this book is a quest for hope and goodness emerging from the shoah s deepest night i partigia erano secondo un modo di dire piemontese i combattenti della resistenza spregiudicati nell uso nelle armi decisi e svelti di mano a loro primo levi ha intitolato una poesia del 1981 narratore formidabile levi ha steso però un velo di silenzio sulle settimane da lui trascorse come ribelle nella valle d aosta dell autunno 1943 prima della cattura e della deportazione ad auschwitz non ha alluso che di sfuggita a un segreto brutto scavando in questo segreto e allargando lo sguardo dalla valle d aosta all italia del nord ovest sergio luzzatto racconta attraverso una storia della resistenza la storia della resistenza il dilemma della scelta quale si pose dopo 1 8 settembre ai giovani di una nazione allo sbando l amalgama di passioni e di ragioni dei refrattari all ordine nazifascista il problema della legittimità e della moralità della violenza luzzatto restituisce figure vere non santini della resistenza o mostri di salò eppure i protagonisti di partigia si rivelano essi stessi a loro modo figure esemplari e personaggi memorabili così un partigiano come mario pelizzari l alimiro che da ivrea combatté una personalissima sua querra contro il male nazifascista così un collaborazionista come edilio cagni la spia che tradì la banda di levi prima di diventare dopo la liberazione informatore degli americani anche primo levi è qui figura vera e diversa dal santino un levi dolente prima ancora che come testimone della soluzione finale del problema ebraico come testimone degli aspetti più scabrosi di una guerra civile vent anni fa rientrava drammaticamente nel mondo dei sommersi un personaggio unico nella storia del nostro paese uno degli sparuti salvati che aveva trovato la forza di testimoniare i drammi del ventesimo secolo primo levi nel ventesimo anniversario della scomparsa firenze university press ha deciso di vivificare la sua lezione con un omaggio che non vuol essere celebrazione bensì pausa di riflessione per riascoltare le parole di questo grande scrittore atomizzate nel mondo intero originando germi di memoria auspicabilmente universali al pari dei segni matematici e geometrici o delle formule chimiche da lui tanto amati voci dal mondo per primo levi in memoria per la memoria curato da luigi dei docente di chimica fisica dell ateneo fiorentino consta di quindici contributi di dimensioni circoscritte realizzati da un insieme multiforme e poliedrico di autori sia a livello di provenienza geografica che di formazione e professione this innovative study reassesses primo levi s holocaust memoirs in light of the posthumanist theories of adorno levinas lyotard and foucault and finds causal links between certain enlightenment ideas and the nazi genocide this book carefully examines the work of primo levi one of the premier survivor writers of the holocaust and one of the outstanding italian writers of the twentieth century artists writers and educators have all turned to levi s

writing as a source of inspiration and wisdom in coping with the tragedy of the holocaust until recently however there have been few book length works in english on levi this collection of essays from an international group of writers aims to bring greater critical attention to levi s work by exploring all aspects of his oeuvre including his science fiction writings and his poetry as well as his fictional and nonfictional writings about the holocaust interdisciplinary in nature this collection includes literary psychoanalytic linguistic and historical approaches to levi s work using popular literature as a window on italian society and its values lynn gunzberg explores the representation of jews in novels and poetry written by non jews from the beginning of the risorgimento in the early 1800s to the enactment of the fascist racial laws in 1938 she shows how the literature of that period contradicts the popular belief that anti semitism simply did not exist in italy until late in the fascist period the reception of the periodic system of elements has received little attention many historians have studied mendeleev s discovery of the periodic system but few have analyzed how the scientific community perceived and employed it american historian of science stephen g brush concluded that the periodic law had been generally accepted in the united states and britain and suggested the need to extend this study to other countries early responses to the periodic system is the first collection of comparative studies on the reception response and appropriation of the periodic system of elements this book examines the history of pedagogy and popularization in scientific communities educational sectors and popular culture from the 1870s to the 1920s fifteen historians of science explore eleven countries and one region central to chemical research including russia germany the czech lands and japan one of the few nation states outside the western world to participate in nineteenth century scientific research the collection organized by nation state explores how local actors regarded the new discovery as law classification or theoretical interpretation the section on france discusses how a small but significant group of authors including adolphe wurtz and Édouard grimaux introduced the periodic system as support for the atomic theory not as the final solution to the longstanding quest for a natural classification of elements the chapter on germany discusses the role of lothar meyer also awarded the davy medal for the discovery of the periodic system meyer s role was considered less important and he was forgotten in his home country where educational tradition was well established and the periodic system was not used as a novel didactic approach in addition to discussing the appropriation of the periodic system the collection examines metaphysical reflections of nature based on the periodic system outside of chemistry and considers how far we can push the categories of response and reception this book studies the persecution of italian jews during the fascist period in relation to the italian cultural tradition it shows that mussolini s anti semitic laws and italian support for hitler s war on the jews stem directly from beliefs deeply embedded in italian culture after studying anti judaic characterizations in the christian tradition and representations of jews by dante and other medieval and renaissance authors the book shows how the anti semitic tradition became reinvigorated in the nineteenth century cultural figures in the period between 1900 and 1940 the writer giovanni papini the catholic

educational leader agostino gemelli and the artist and critic ardengo soffici the book then examines mussolini s specific anti semitic policies and argues that the italian cultural system contributed to generating the evil that led to the holocaust wiley feinstein is associate professor of italian at loyola university chicago inscribing the other focuses on great authors who have by birth or choice or both found themselves outside the mainstream of their culture but who have still wished to address it goethe freud wilde heine nietzsche and isaac bashevis singer among others in thirteen probing provocative essays sander 1 gilman reinterprets their writing as it reveals their efforts to come to terms with their real or imagined sense of difference the chapters treat many themes and problems ranging widely from the romantic notion of the transcendent artist to the twentieth century artists in exile and employing the perspectives of psychiatry aesthetics photography politics and the history of mentalities the fate of jewish writers in modern germany or of yiddish writers whose language is devalued in european culture is explored the theme of difference and its artistic and intellectual manifestations runs throughout the book which includes discussions of goethe s and wilde s homosexuality nietzsche s madness heine s refusal to be photographed and primo levi s internment at auschwitz as well as an interview with singer in a frank autobiographical introduction gilman attempts to understand his own writing as an exercise in inscribing the other in dealing with is own sense of difference through artistic creation levi s compulsion to record the holocaust if it intends to enhance awareness and to stimulate intellectual and cultural maturity literature cannot ignore and when it survives over time does not ignore the great conquests of philosophical thought and the fundamental stages marked by the progress of scientific knowledge a scientific result and a poetic result both represent an internally ordered fragment of reality which moves and stirs us by the intrinsic beauty of the image that it evokes and its significance at the level of meaning both scientific and literary languages each in its own way tend to the decodification and representation of the external world imagination intuition and rationality come together in creativity in the construction of scientific models and of literary styles in this anthology eighteen scholars discuss the themes and practices of survivance in literature examining the legacy of vizenor s original insights and exploring the manifestations of survivance in a variety of contexts contributors interpret and compare the original writings of william apess eric gansworth louis owens carter revard gerald vizenor and velma wallis among others

Il sistema periodico 2014

elegant beautifully written literary criticism examining how eight major writers from tolstoy to primo levi dealt with death in their fiction the wall street journal all art and the love of art victor brombert writes at the beginning of the deeply personal musings on mortality allow us to negate our nothingness as a young man returning from world war ii brombert came to understand this truth as he immersed himself in literature death can be found everywhere in literature he saw but literature itself is on the side of life with delicacy and penetrating insight brombert traces the theme of mortality in the work of a group of modern writers leo tolstoy thomas mann franz kafka virginia woolf albert camus giorgio bassani j m coetzee and primo levi illuminating their views on the meaning of life and the human condition brombert ultimately reveals that by understanding how these authors wrote about mortality we can grasp the full scope of their literary achievement and vision winner of the robert penn warren cleanth brooks award for outstanding literary criticism suffused with wisdom and argued with the strong hand of a weathered and feeling literary scholar it is hard to imagine such thematic criticism being done better than here what a beautiful book thomas harrison author of 1910 the emancipation of dissonance a brave and eloquent book peter brooks author of henry james goes to paris the simplicity and directness of brombert s style gives his discussion of the philosophical and aesthetic underpinnings of the works under scrutiny great clarity publishers weekly brombert s eloquently written book is for serious lovers of literature library journal

Musings on Mortality 2013-10-15

in an age of upheaval and challenged faith traditional heroes are hard to come by and harder still to love with their bloodstained hands and backs unbowed by the consequences of their actions through penetrating readings of key works of modern european literature victor brombert shows how a new kind of hero the antihero has arisen to replace the toppled heroic model though they fail by design to live up to conventional expectations of mythic heroes antiheroes are not necessarily failures they display different kinds of courage more in tune with our time and our needs deficiency translated into strength failure experienced as honesty dignity achieved through humiliation brombert explores these paradoxes in the works of büchner gogol dostoevsky flaubert svevo hašek frisch camus and levi coming from diverse cultural and linguistic traditions these writers all use the figure of the antihero to question handed down assumptions to reexamine moral categories and to raise issues of survival and renewal embodying the spirit of an uneasy age

<u>In Praise of Antiheroes</u> 2001-11

as one of the best known survivors of the concentration camps primo levi s testimony to his experiences in auschwitz is internationally recognised as one of the most significant works of the last century this volume examines each of levi s works in detail assessing and

analysing the influence of levi s time in auschwitz on his writing it identifies a variety of thematic temporal stylistic and linguistic echoes of levi s concentration camp testimony and traces these echoes throughout his subsequent apparently unrelated work the book provides original and fascinating insights into the works of this remarkable writer giving readers a new understanding and perspective on the immense significance and the pervasive influence of the holocaust on levi s creative output

Primo Levi 2006

primo levi 1919 1987 is one of italy s most distinguished writers a survivor of the holocaust his memoirs on the nazi death camps if this is a man and the truce are internationally recognized as among the most powerful and profound testimonies to have come out of the extermination of european jewry this book is the first comprehensive introduction to levi and his writing for english speaking readers the author draws attention to the literary worth of levi s entire output not just the holocaust testimonies for which he is primarily known and situates his works in the context of italian culture and society from the 1920s to the 1980s a man with many identities chemist industrial manager and writer he tried through his writing to build bridges between different cultures and fields of enquiry

Primo Levi 1995-12-01

primo levi holocaust survivor and renowned memoirist is one of the most widely read writers of post world war ii italy his works are characterized by the lean dispassionate eloquence with which he approaches his experience of incarceration in auschwitz his memoirs as well as his poetry and fiction and his many interviews are often taught in several fields including jewish studies and holocaust studies comparative literature and italian language and literature and can enrich the study of history psychology and philosophy the first part of this volume provides instructors with an overview of the available editions anthologies and translations of levi s work and identifies other useful classroom aids such as films music and online resources in the second part contributors describe different approaches to teaching levi s work some in presenting survival in auschwitz the reawakening and the drowned and the saved look at the place of style in holocaust testimony and the reliability of memory in autobiography others focus on questions of translation complicated by the untranslatable in the language and experiences of the concentration camps or on how levi incorporates his background as a chemist into his writing most clearly in the periodic table

Approaches to Teaching the Works of Primo Levi 2014-11-01

judith kelly looks at levi s work in the context of testimonial literature and examines the linguistic expression of the author s auschwitz experience the moral and philosophical nature of humanity

within the camp is investigated in particular there is a comparison between if this is man and a co authored medico scientific report and a consideration of sources and motifs which provide the cultural framework for the authors expression of his experiences

Primo Levi 2000-01-01

the author has developed a star of salvaction a diagram in the shape of a star of david in which each of the six points leads to a strategy levi learned for seeking meaning and thereby salvation in the misery of auschwitz with its concise overview of levi s expression and development as a writer a centaur in auschwitz reveals primo levi for what he was scientist intellectual jew and dedicated seeker of the roots of human dignity jacket

A Centaur in Auschwitz 2003

this innovative reading of primo levi s work offers the first sustained analysis in english of his representations of bodies and embodiment discussion spans the range of levi s works from testimony to journalism from essays to science fiction stories identifying and tracing multiple narratives of embodiment and disembodiment across his oeuvre these narratives range from the abject disembodied condition of prisoners in auschwitz to posthuman or cyborg individuals whose bodies merge with technological devices levi s representations of bodies are explored in relation to theories of embodiment and posthumanism bringing his work into new dialogue with critical discourses on these issues taking inspiration from levi s definition of the human being as a constructor of containers as well as from the recurring references to both material and metaphorical containing structures in his work the book suggests that for levi embodiment involves constant negotiations of containment he depicts the complex relationships between physical and social bodies the material and the immaterial self the conscious and unconscious subject the organic and the technologically enhanced body engaging with evolving understandings of the boundaries of the body the self and the human

Primo Levi's Narratives of Embodiment 2010-09-13

over the course of more than twenty five years primo levi gave more than two hundred newspaper journal radio and television interviews speaking with such varied authors as philip roth and germaine greer marco belpoliti and robert gordon have selected and translated thirty six of the most important of these interviews for the voice of memory

The Voice of Memory 2018-05-18

primo levi 1919 87 was the author of a rich body of work including memoirs and reflections on auschwitz poetry science fiction historical fiction and essays in particular his lucid and direct accounts of his time at auschwitz begun immediately after liberation in 1945 and

sustained until weeks before his suicide in 1987 has made him one of the most admired of all holocaust writer survivors and one of the best guides we have for the interrogation of that horrific event but there is also more to levi than the voice of the witness he has increasingly come to be recognised as one of the major literary voices of the twentieth century this companion brings together leading specialists on levi and scholars in the fields of holocaust studies italian literature and language and literature and science to offer a stimulating introduction to all aspects of the work of this extraordinary writer

The Cambridge Companion to Primo Levi 2007-07-30

one of the best literary biographies of the year superb levi i think would have appreciated it observer re issued to mark the centenary of primo levi s birth now featuring a new introduction from the author discover the definitive biography of the iconic writer and holocaust survivor on 11 april 1987 the italian writer and chemist primo levi fell to his death in the house where he was born more than forty years after his rescue from a nazi concentration camp it seemed that levi had taken his own life his account of auschwitz if this is a man is recognised as one of the essential books of mankind ian thomson spent over ten years in italy and elsewhere researching and writing this matchless biography this incomparable book unravels the strands of a life caught between the factory and the typewriter family and friends deeply researched it sheds new light on levi s recurring depressions and unearths vital information about his premature death

Primo Levi 2019-12-19

how do we represent ouselves and the cultures we live in is it possible to trace any boundaries between reality and self representation because the self represented is the product of a process of selection and choice in many ways to represent the self is often simultaneously to create the self and negate the self what then becomes of the self once it is represented because the process of self representation cumulates in a tangible result and given that any representation of the self is necessarily a construct which aims to render visible or knowable in concrete form the unseen and unknown self representation is vulnerable to assessments of its naturalness or artificiality its honesty or deceit many issues affect the author or artist s self representation both as process and form the medium through which the self will be represented the motivation for representing oneself and the role of the audience to name only a few relevant factors this book explores the multifaceted nature of self representation in relation to culture from the middle ages through the renaissance up to contemporary italian american and australian culture with reference to concepts and questions connected to literature poetry philosophy theology history ethnicity studies gender studies and visual arts

About Face 2009-10-02

situated at the intersection of animal studies and literary theory this book explores the remarkable and subtly pervasive web of animal imagery metaphors and concepts in the work of the jewish italian writer chemist and holocaust survivor primo levi 1919 1987 relatively unexamined by scholars the complex and extensive animal imagery levi employed in his literary works offers new insights into the aesthetical and ethical function of testimony as well as an original perspective on contemporary debates surrounding human animal relationships and posthumanism the three main sections that compose the book mirror levi s approach to non human animals and animality from an unquestionable bio ethical origin suffering through an investigation of the relationships between writing technology and animality techne to a creative intellectual project in which literary animals both counterbalance the inevitable suffering of all creatures and suggest a transformative image of interspecific community creation

Animals and Animality in Primo Levi's Work 2018-06-21

the legacy of antifascist partisan auschwitz survivor and author primo levi continues to drive exciting interdisciplinary scholarship the contributions to this intellectually rich tightly organized volume from many of the world s foremost levi scholars show a remarkable breadth across fields as varied as ethics memory and media studies

Interpreting Primo Levi 2016-04-29

in this study of primo levi s if this is a man se questo è un uomo the author tries to give some sense of the historical and cultural context not just of levi s book but also of the events which gave rise to it since it is to those events that levi is directing us for the same reason suggestions for further reading mainly concentrate on history while looking at some of the many literary influences on levi s book particularly that of dante s inferno this book also places it in the literature of survivor accounts the author has drawn widely on levi s other writings both because if this is a man has to be seen as the beginning of a lifetime s endeavour and because in the absence of a definitive body of criticism levi remains the best explicator of his own work this book is intended both for the student of italian and for the general reader all quotations from if this is a man and all verse quotations are given both in italian and in english while all other quotations from italian texts are given in english

The Memory of the Offence 2001

motherhood fatherland and primo levi the hidden groundwork of agency in his auschwitz writings offers major new insights into the political dimensions of levi s thought by using those texts conventionally thought to be marginal to his oeuvre i e his short works of science fiction and fantasy and his world war two partisan novel to deepen our

understanding of the lessons he offered in his more well known and celebrated texts survival in auschwitz and the drowned and the saved typically cast as one of the most profound theorists of what human beings at their worst can do to one another levi appears in this book as in addition a theorist who affirms a politics of active and broad participation in republican institutions as an important means of achieving a fulfilled human life this book reinterprets levi s political significance by bringing to bear two literatures that have been previously missing from scholarly considerations of levi s legacy psychologically informed analyses of how infantile and toddler experience of and relationship to a primary caretaker shape later perceptions of self and relationship and studies of machiavelli s variant of republican thought in which major emphasis is placed on founding institutions of civic participation that develop responsible political leaders and foster good citizenship in the aftermath of the so called arab spring which has given rise to people acting on their worst impulses ethnic cleansing genocide as well as on their best revolution democratic constitutionalism levi s legacy considered more comprehensively can be a valuable touchstone for understanding the democratic possibilities of a world undergoing rapid political change avoiding academic jargon and entanglement in hyper specialized academic debates motherhood fatherland and primo levi offers that comprehensive understanding to scholars across many fields italian studies political theory cultural studies women s studies holocaust studies history as well as to general interest readers of a humanistic bent and citizens concerned to make sense of this revolutionary age

Motherhood, Fatherland, and Primo Levi 2017-09-05

this anthology brings together scholars from literature the natural sciences and the philosophy of science to present new perspectives on the relations between literary and scientific communities drawing on literature spanning the 19th and 20th centuries as well as europe and the americas the authors explore how science has been portrayed from the perspective of literature at different times and in different places as challenge or opportunity promise or scandal the disturbance of science emanates perhaps from its association with a frightening future or its ability to change the appearance of the past the scandal occurs as it recalls us to thresholds and hybrids human and non human animal and machine science however also emerges as a source of metaphor and imaginative modelling of encodings and decodings representations and discoveries less prominent in the collection though no less important is the view on how scientific cultures portray literature or the literary academic and how science reflects on itself

The Art of Discovery 2010-08-30

russo bullaro s collection focuses on benigni s oscar winning la vita e bella life is beautiful a film which has set off continuous and often bitter debate about holocaust representation and historical consciousness the topics covered in russo bullaro s collection offer

insights from critics around the world in a forum for the consideration of the wider issues that benigni s films provoke

Beyond "Life is Beautiful" 2005-01-01

this collection represents some of the latest research on primo levi the famous auschwitz survivor italian author in the field of italian studies holocaust studies jewish studies literary theory philosophy and ethics the author has collected an impressive group of scholars including ian thomson who has published a well received biography of levi in the uk a us edition is due this year alexander stille who is a staff writer got the new yorker as well as for the new york times he is also the author of benevolence and betrayal five italian jewish families under fascism and david mendel who knew levi and had an extensive correspondence with the italian writer there are four essays on levi s complex and fertile theory of the gray zone and further essays on the myriad aspects of this thought this is an excellent collection with new perspectives and interpretations of the life and work of primo levi

The Legacy of Primo Levi 2004-12-16

theoretical discussions of biography approaches from history microhistory and life writing offers comprehensive overviews by 14 academic scholars of the actual state of the field of biography studies specifically by connecting biography with microhistory journalism and life writing

Theoretical Discussions of Biography 2014-04-17

this book presents a baker s dozen of interpretative keys to levi s output and thought it deepens our understanding of common themes in levi studies memory and witness while exploring unusual and revealing byways levi and calvino or levi and theater for example

New Reflections on Primo Levi 2011-07-04

what do cesare pavese beppe fenoglio and primo levi have in common apart from their obvious piedmontese origins they and other writers coming from this italian region share a certain tendency towards multilingualism which is a characteristic that has not been comprehensively investigated over the years this study presents a linguistic analysis of a group of modern and contemporary narratives written by piedmontese authors the novels and short stories here examined are notable for the intriguing way in which they move between a variety of idioms standard italian regional vernaculars english and pastiches with rare excursions into french with the support of linguistic and philosophical theories on the relation between identity alterity and language the book demonstrates how the use of non standard parlances is fundamental in both reinforcing the sense of belonging to specific social groups and highlighting the presence of dissimilar identities and other cultures a sociolinguistic study and an analysis of the political and historical context of the region are

also provided in order to illustrate how the combination of different varieties in literature reflects the region s peripheral position as well as the political and social changes that have occurred in piedmont since the nineteenth century this book fills a notable gap and casts new light on piedmontese literature

The Many Voices of Contemporary Piedmontese Writers 2016-12-14

three italian epistolary novels looks at the development of a literary genre that flourished in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries and counted among its illustrious authors samuel richardson henry fielding pierre choderlos de laclos jean jacques rousseau and johann wolfgang von goethe these translations of three italian novels by foscolo de meis and piovene never offered before in a single study reflect social historical and stylistic aspects through 150 years of italian literature from the birth of a touching romantic story to the time of the new currents in italy and the period of world war ii the book is particularly suited for studies in italian european and comparative literature programs

Three Italian Epistolary Novels 2005

a commentary on the works of writers who survived the holocaust and wrote about their experiences e g primo levy jean amery bruno bettelheim nelly sachs paul celan interspersed with many quotations from their works discusses subjects such as hunger alienation the survivor and his literary work experience and testimony

Il flauto d'osso 1996

describes the history and nature of the italian race laws during the period 1938 43 when italy was independent of german control

The Fascists and the Jews of Italy 2014-04-21

italy in the second world war alternative perspectives brings together fifteen international scholars to offer new contributions to the study of italian war experience both civilian and military during the second world war

Fiction in French - Fiction in Soviet 2013-02-07

ethics after auschwitz primo levi s and elie wiesel s response demonstrates how after their horrific experiences in auschwitz both primo levi and elie wiesel could have deservedly expressed rage and bitterness for the rest of their lives housed in the same barracks in the depths of hell a dark reality surpassing dante s vivid images portrayed in the inferno they chose to speak write and work for a better world never allowing the memory of those who did not survive to

fade why and how did they make this choice what influenced their values before auschwitz and their moral decision making after it what can others who have suffered less devastating traumas learn from them the quest is in the question wiesel often tells his students this book is a quest for hope and goodness emerging from the shoah s deepest night

Italy and the Second World War 2018-06-05

i partigia erano secondo un modo di dire piemontese i combattenti della resistenza spregiudicati nell uso nelle armi decisi e svelti di mano a loro primo levi ha intitolato una poesia del 1981 narratore formidabile levi ha steso però un velo di silenzio sulle settimane da lui trascorse come ribelle nella valle d aosta dell autunno 1943 prima della cattura e della deportazione ad auschwitz non ha alluso che di sfuggita a un segreto brutto scavando in questo segreto e allargando lo squardo dalla valle d aosta all italia del nord ovest sergio luzzatto racconta attraverso una storia della resistenza la storia della resistenza il dilemma della scelta quale si pose dopo 1 8 settembre ai giovani di una nazione allo sbando l amalgama di passioni e di ragioni dei refrattari all ordine nazifascista il problema della legittimità e della moralità della violenza luzzatto restituisce figure vere non santini della resistenza o mostri di salò eppure i protagonisti di partigia si rivelano essi stessi a loro modo figure esemplari e personaggi memorabili così un partigiano come mario pelizzari l alimiro che da ivrea combatté una personalissima sua guerra contro il male nazifascista così un collaborazionista come edilio cagni la spia che tradì la banda di levi prima di diventare dopo la liberazione informatore degli americani anche primo levi è qui figura vera e diversa dal santino un levi dolente prima ancora che come testimone della soluzione finale del problema ebraico come testimone degli aspetti più scabrosi di una guerra civile

Ethics After Auschwitz? 2011

vent anni fa rientrava drammaticamente nel mondo dei sommersi un personaggio unico nella storia del nostro paese uno degli sparuti salvati che aveva trovato la forza di testimoniare i drammi del ventesimo secolo primo levi nel ventesimo anniversario della scomparsa firenze university press ha deciso di vivificare la sua lezione con un omaggio che non vuol essere celebrazione bensì pausa di riflessione per riascoltare le parole di questo grande scrittore atomizzate nel mondo intero originando germi di memoria auspicabilmente universali al pari dei segni matematici e geometrici o delle formule chimiche da lui tanto amati voci dal mondo per primo levi in memoria per la memoria curato da luigi dei docente di chimica fisica dell ateneo fiorentino consta di quindici contributi di dimensioni circoscritte realizzati da un insieme multiforme e poliedrico di autori sia a livello di provenienza geografica che di formazione e professione

Partigia 2013-04-16

this innovative study reassesses primo levi s holocaust memoirs in light of the posthumanist theories of adorno levinas lyotard and foucault and finds causal links between certain enlightenment ideas and the nazi genocide

Voci dal mondo per Primo Levi 2007

this book carefully examines the work of primo levi one of the premier survivor writers of the holocaust and one of the outstanding italian writers of the twentieth century artists writers and educators have all turned to levi s writing as a source of inspiration and wisdom in coping with the tragedy of the holocaust until recently however there have been few book length works in english on levi this collection of essays from an international group of writers aims to bring greater critical attention to levi s work by exploring all aspects of his oeuvre including his science fiction writings and his poetry as well as his fictional and nonfictional writings about the holocaust interdisciplinary in nature this collection includes literary psychoanalytic linguistic and historical approaches to levi s work

Primo Levi and Humanism after Auschwitz 2009-06-08

using popular literature as a window on italian society and its values lynn gunzberg explores the representation of jews in novels and poetry written by non jews from the beginning of the risorgimento in the early 1800s to the enactment of the fascist racial laws in 1938 she shows how the literature of that period contradicts the popular belief that anti semitism simply did not exist in italy until late in the fascist period

Memory and Mastery 2012-02-01

the reception of the periodic system of elements has received little attention many historians have studied mendeleev s discovery of the periodic system but few have analyzed how the scientific community perceived and employed it american historian of science stephen g brush concluded that the periodic law had been generally accepted in the united states and britain and suggested the need to extend this study to other countries early responses to the periodic system is the first collection of comparative studies on the reception response and appropriation of the periodic system of elements this book examines the history of pedagogy and popularization in scientific communities educational sectors and popular culture from the 1870s to the 1920s fifteen historians of science explore eleven countries and one region central to chemical research including russia germany the czech lands and japan one of the few nation states outside the western world to participate in nineteenth century scientific research the collection organized by nation state explores how local actors regarded the new discovery as law classification or theoretical interpretation the

section on france discusses how a small but significant group of authors including adolphe wurtz and Édouard grimaux introduced the periodic system as support for the atomic theory not as the final solution to the longstanding quest for a natural classification of elements the chapter on germany discusses the role of lothar meyer also awarded the davy medal for the discovery of the periodic system meyer s role was considered less important and he was forgotten in his home country where educational tradition was well established and the periodic system was not used as a novel didactic approach in addition to discussing the appropriation of the periodic system the collection examines metaphysical reflections of nature based on the periodic system outside of chemistry and considers how far we can push the categories of response and reception

Strangers at Home 2023-12-22

this book studies the persecution of italian jews during the fascist period in relation to the italian cultural tradition it shows that mussolini s anti semitic laws and italian support for hitler s war on the jews stem directly from beliefs deeply embedded in italian culture after studying anti judaic characterizations in the christian tradition and representations of jews by dante and other medieval and renaissance authors the book shows how the anti semitic tradition became reinvigorated in the nineteenth century cultural figures in the period between 1900 and 1940 the writer giovanni papini the catholic educational leader agostino gemelli and the artist and critic ardengo soffici the book then examines mussolini s specific anti semitic policies and argues that the italian cultural system contributed to generating the evil that led to the holocaust wiley feinstein is associate professor of italian at loyola university chicago

Early Responses to the Periodic System 2015

inscribing the other focuses on great authors who have by birth or choice or both found themselves outside the mainstream of their culture but who have still wished to address it goethe freud wilde heine nietzsche and isaac bashevis singer among others in thirteen probing provocative essays sander 1 gilman reinterprets their writing as it reveals their efforts to come to terms with their real or imagined sense of difference the chapters treat many themes and problems ranging widely from the romantic notion of the transcendent artist to the twentieth century artists in exile and employing the perspectives of psychiatry aesthetics photography politics and the history of mentalities the fate of jewish writers in modern germany or of yiddish writers whose language is devalued in european culture is explored the theme of difference and its artistic and intellectual manifestations runs throughout the book which includes discussions of goethe s and wilde s homosexuality nietzsche s madness heine s refusal to be photographed and primo levi s internment at auschwitz as well as an interview with singer in a frank autobiographical introduction gilman attempts to understand his own writing as an exercise in inscribing the other in dealing with is own sense of difference through artistic creation

The Civilization of the Holocaust in Italy 2003

levi s compulsion to record the holocaust

Inscribing the Other 1991-01-01

if it intends to enhance awareness and to stimulate intellectual and cultural maturity literature cannot ignore and when it survives over time does not ignore the great conquests of philosophical thought and the fundamental stages marked by the progress of scientific knowledge a scientific result and a poetic result both represent an internally ordered fragment of reality which moves and stirs us by the intrinsic beauty of the image that it evokes and its significance at the level of meaning both scientific and literary languages each in its own way tend to the decodification and representation of the external world imagination intuition and rationality come together in creativity in the construction of scientific models and of literary styles

Understanding Primo Levi 1995

in this anthology eighteen scholars discuss the themes and practices of survivance in literature examining the legacy of vizenor s original insights and exploring the manifestations of survivance in a variety of contexts contributors interpret and compare the original writings of william apess eric gansworth louis owens carter revard gerald vizenor and velma wallis among others

Piccole zone di simmetria 2011

Survivance 2008-11

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