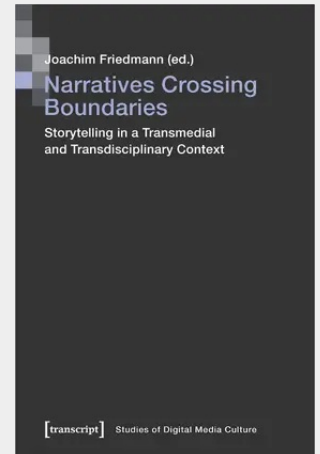


Narratives Crossing Boundaries

Storytelling in a Transmedial and Transdisciplinary Context

As the dominant narrative forms in the age of media convergence, films and games call for a transmedial perspective in narratology. Games allow a participatory reception of the story, bringing the transgression of the ontological boundary between the narrated world and the world of the recipient into focus. These diverse transgressions – medial and ontological – are the subject of this transdisciplinary compendium, which covers the subject in an interdisciplinary way from various perspectives: game studies and media studies, but also sociology and psychology, to take into account the great influence of storytelling on social discourses and human behavior.

1. Why did you choose this topic? As a writer who works and publishes in a variety of narrative media (TV, Comics, Games), I have always dealt with issues of media specificity on the one hand and transmedial approaches on the other. But these formal aspects represent only one side of my professional practice. As a content creator, and especially as a teacher at a film school, I also have to thoroughly ask myself what I want to achieve with my stories, what impact they have on the recipients. Linking the formal, media-theoretical perspective with the creative, originating one, and doing so with a scholarly approach, is the focus of my book. 2. What new perspectives does your book offer? Since this book is about different ways of crossing borders, I am particularly intent on uniting different perspectives in the anthology: Be it different academic disciplines (Game Studies, Media Studies, Narratology, Socio-Economics, Mediavistics), or viewpoints of creatives (Screenwriters, Game Designers). Moreover, this book not only presents Western voices, but complements their perspectives with contributions from African scholars and creatives from Nigeria and Zimbabwe – thus taking storytelling seriously not only as a transmedial, but also as a transcultural phenomenon. 3. What makes your topic relevant for current research debates? In an era when scholars have to reflect on their perspectives more and more, when the question arises as to what extent our views are determined by our (colonial) history, our gender, or our origin, it is not only useful but even mandatory to broaden the horizon and to allow and consider other viewpoints. This book, which attempts to bring together precisely these different perspectives, can hopefully contribute to making this debate more diverse and creative. 4. Choose one person you would like to discuss your book with! I would love to discuss my book with Chimamanda Adichie. As a Nigerian woman who studied in the U.S. and has produced a remarkable body of artistic as well as academic work, she is not only a highly interesting, original thinker, she also combines in her work all the perspectives presented in this anthology. Moreover, one focus of her thinking is the extent to which singular stories with a one-dimensional perspective can negatively shape social discourse – an important focus in this book as well. 5. Your book summary in one sentence: Explore the diversity of stories, perspectives, and ways of thinking - in creative and profound ways.



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