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Metaphor and Literariness

By Olivia Frey

GRIN Verlag Feb 2010, 2010. Taschenbuch. Book Condition: Neu. 210x148x2 mm. This item is printed on demand - Print on Demand Neuware - 'Metaphor is for most people a device of the poetic imagination and the rhetorical flourish a matter of extraordinary rather than ordinary language. [] We have found, on the contrary, that metaphor is pervasive in everyday life, not just in language but in thought and action. Our ordinary conceptual system, in terms of which we both think and act, is fundamentally metaphorical in nature' (Lakoff and Johnson 1980: 3). Taking this statement into account, one might ask where the boundaries between literary and ordinary language in terms of metaphoricality are or whether they exist at all. Metaphor is obviously neither an exclusively literary device in the sense of a defining feature of literature. Nevertheless, the scope of this paper is to show that literary metaphor has a special status not only because of its distinct features, but also due to a special way of processing and interpretation on the part of the reader. In order to situate these two aspects of literary metaphor within a theoretical literary framework, two basic approaches to the concept of literariness...

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