

Cambridge University Press 978-0-521-06521-4 - Fiction and Metaphysics Amie L. Thomasson Table of Contents More information

## **Contents**

Introduction: From Fiction Into Metaphysics		page 1x xi
Part	t One The Artifactual Theory of Fiction	1
Foreword		3
1	If we postulated fictional objects, what would they be?	5
	What fictional characters seem to be	5
	Meinongian theories of fiction	14
	Possibilist theories of fiction	17
	Fictional characters as objects of reference	18
	Fictional characters as imaginary objects	21
2	The nature and varieties of existential dependence	24
	Dependence	29
	Constant dependence	30
	Historical dependence	31
	Relations among types of dependence	33
3	Fictional characters as abstract artifacts	35
	Dependencies of fictional characters	35
	Fictional characters in a modal metaphysics	38
	Fictions and other dependent abstracta	40
4	Reference to fictional characters	43
	Kripke and fictional names	44
	Baptism of fictional objects	46
	Maintaining a chain of reference	49
	Results for fiction and beyond	52
5	Identity conditions for fictional characters	55

vii



Cambridge University Press 978-0-521-06521-4 - Fiction and Metaphysics Amie L. Thomasson Table of Contents More information

	Troubles with Meinongian identity conditions	56
	Identity conditions within a literary work	63
	Identity conditions across literary works	67
Part	Two Ontological decisions	71
Fore	eword	73
6	Fiction and experience	76
	Pure content theories and fiction	77
	Pure contextualist theories and fiction	84
	Combined content/context approach	86
	The intentional object theory of intentionality	88
7	Fiction and language	93
	Paraphrase and pretense	94
	Meinongian theories	100
	The artifactual theory	105
	Objections and assessment	111
8	Ontology and categorization	115
	Piecemeal ontology versus categorial ontology	115
	Traditional categories and sources of skepticism	117
	System of existential categories	120
	Familiar categories	124
	Unfamiliar categories	127
	A tool for ontology	134
9	Perils of false parsimony	137
	Genuine parsimony versus false parsimony	138
	Is doing without fictional objects really more parsimonious?	139
10	Ontology for a varied world	146
	Lessons from the case of fiction	147
	A modest proposal	<b>15</b> 0
Not	tes	154
Bibl	Bibliography	
Inde	Index	