

Contents

Foreword	ix
Preface	xiii
Acknowledgments	xv
Introduction	1
1. Dynamic Americana	5
2. The Structure of the Game	17
3. The Audience	25
4. Understanding Folk Rhetorical Strategy	35
5. Formulaic Structuring	49
6. A Note on Profanity	57
7. The Four Basic Groups: Preliminaries	61
8. The Umpires	67
9. The Fielders	79
10. The Hitters	89
11. The Pitchers	101
12. Conclusion	109
Notes	115
Bibliography	121