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the breathtakingly brilliant novel by the author of infinite jest new york times is a deeply compelling and satisfying story as hilarious and fearless and original as anything wallace ever wrote the agents at the irs regional examination center in peoria illinois appear ordinary enough to newly arrived trainee david foster wallace but as he immerses himself in a routine so tedious and repetitive that new employees receive boredom survival training he learns of the extraordinary variety of personalities drawn to this strange calling and he has arrived at a moment when forces within the irs are plotting to eliminate even what little humanity and dignity the work still has the pale king remained unfinished at the time of david foster wallace s death but it is a deeply compelling and satisfying novel hilarious and fearless and as original as anything wallace ever undertook it grapples directly with ultimate questions questions of life s meaning and of the value of work and society through characters imagined with the interior force and generosity that were wallace s unique gifts along the way it suggests a new idea of heroism and commands infinite respect for one of the most daring writers of our time the pale king is by turns funny shrewd suspenseful piercing smart terrifying and rousing laura miller salon a visionary a craftsman a comedian he can do anything with a piece of prose and it is a humbling experience to see him go to work on what has passed up till now as modern fiction he s so modern he s in a different time space continuum from the rest of us goddamn him zadie smith a recognised master of form and a brilliant recorder of human behaviour david foster wallace has been hailed as the most significant writer of his generation tls each new book confirms and extends his genius and this new short story collection is no exception in the stories that make up oblivion david foster wallace conjoins the rawest most naked humanity with the infinite convolutions of self consciousness a combination that is dazzlingly uniquely his wallace s talent is such that you can t help wondering how good can he get time out of the twelve books david foster wallace published both during his lifetime and posthumously only three were novels nevertheless wallace always thought of himself primarily as a novelist from his college years at amherst when he wrote his first novel as part of a creative honors thesis to his final days wallace was buried in a novel project which he often referred to as the long thing meanwhile the short stories and journalistic assignments he worked on during those years he characterized as playing hooky from a certain larger thing wallace was also a specific kind of novelist devoted to producing a specific kind of novel namely the omnivorous culture consuming encyclopedic novel as described in 1976 by edward mendelson in a ground breaking essay on thomas pynchon s gravity s rainbow david foster wallace and the long thing is a state of the art guide through wallace s three major works including the generation defining infinite jest these essays provide fresh new readings of each of wallace s novels as well as thematic essays that trace out patterns and connections across the three works most importantly the collection includes six chapters on wallace s unfinished novel the pale king which will prove to be foundational for future scholars of this important text where do you begin with a writer as original and brilliant as david foster wallace here with a carefully considered selection of his extraordinary body of work chosen by a range of great writers critics and those who worked with him most closely this volume presents his most dazzling funniest and most heartbreaking work essays like his famous cruise ship piece a supposedly fun thing i II never do again excerpts from his novels the broom of the system infinite jest and the pale king and legendary stories like the depressed person wallace s explorations of morality self consciousness addiction sports love and the many other subjects that occupied him are represented here in both fiction and nonfiction collected for the first time are wallace s first published story the view from planet trillaphon as seen in relation to the bad thing and a selection of his work as a writing instructor including reading lists grammar guides and general guidelines for his students a dozen writers and critics including hari kunzru anne fadiman and nam le add afterwords to favorite pieces expanding our appreciation of the unique pleasures of wallace s writing the result is an astonishing volume that shows the breadth and range of one of america s most daring and talented writers los angeles times book review whose work was full of humor insight and beauty the period from the 5th to the 7th century ad was characterised by far reaching structural changes that affected the entire west of the roman empire this process used to be regarded by scholars aspart of the dissolution of roman order but in current discussions it is nowexamined more critically the contributions to this volume of conference papers combine approaches from history and literature studies in order to review the changing forms and fields of the establishment of collective identities and to analyse them in their mutual relationships a collection of insightful and uproariously funny non fiction by the bestselling author of infinite jest one of the most acclaimed and adventurous writers of our time a

supposedly fun thing brings together wallace s musings on a wide range of topics from his early days as a nationally ranked tennis player to his trip on a commercial cruiseliner in each of these essays wallace s observations are as keen as they are funny filled with hilarious details and invigorating analyses these essays brilliantly expose the fault line in american culture and once again reveal david foster wallace s extraordinary talent and gargantuan intellect charts the growth both personal and artistic of a uniquely talented and cherished writer frequently labelled the best of his generation in addition to wallace s last interview given to the wall street journal weeks before his death the volume features a legendary interview with russian journalist ostap karmodi and a conversation with cleveland state university s whiskey island magazine from early in wallace s career these conversations showcase and illuminate the traits for which wallace is so highly regarded a posthumously published novella with a title supplied by the publisher an expanded edition featuring new interviews and an introduction by the editor a new york times journalist and friend of the author a unique selection of the best interviews given by david foster wallace including the last he gave before his suicide in 2008 complete with an introduction by foster wallace s friend and ny times journalist david streitfeld and including a new never before published interview between streitfeld and wallace these widely acclaimed essays from the author of infinite jest on television tennis cruise ships and more established david foster wallace as one of the preeminent essayists of his generation in this exuberantly praised book a collection of seven pieces on subjects ranging from television to tennis from the illinois state fair to the films of david lynch from postmodern literary theory to the supposed fun of traveling aboard a caribbean luxury cruiseliner david foster wallace brings to nonfiction the same curiosity hilarity and exhilarating verbal facility that has delighted readers of his fiction including the bestselling infinite jest a writer of virtuostic talents who can seemingly do anything new york times wallace is a superb comedian of culture his exuberance and intellectual impishness are a delight james wood guardian he induces the kind of laughter which when read in bed with a sleeping partner wakes said sleeping partner up he s damn good nicholas lezard guardian one of the best books about addiction and recovery to appear in recent memory sunday times somewhere in the not so distant future the residents of ennet house a boston halfway house for recovering addicts and students at the nearby enfield tennis academy are ensnared in the search for the master copy of infinite jest a movie said to be so dangerously entertaining its viewers become entranced and expire in a state of catatonic bliss both flesh and not is an collection of essays and writing from the virtuosic genius david foster wallace beloved for his brilliantly discerning eye his verbal elasticity and his uniquely generous imagination david foster wallace was heralded by critics and fans as the voice of a generation collected here are fifteen essays published for the first time in book form including writing never published before in the uk from federer both flesh and not considered by many to be his non fiction masterpiece to the as it were seminal importance of terminator 2 which deftly dissects james cameron s blockbuster to fictional futures and the conspicuously young an examination of television s effect on a new generation of writers the writing collected here swoops from erudite literary discussion to open hearted engagement with the most familiar of our twentieth century cultural references a celebration of wallace s great loves for language for precision for meaning and a feast of enjoyment for his fans both flesh and not is a fitting tribute to this writer who was never concerned with anything less important than what it means to be alive praise for david foster wallace a visionary a craftsman a comedian he s in a different time space continuum from the rest of us zadie smith wallace s essays brim with cerebral energy acute observation and fizzing wit enviably good sunday times wallace s exuberance and intellectual impishness are a delight a superb comedian of culture guardian james wood david foster wallace wrote the novels infinite jest and the broom of the system and the short story collections oblivion brief interviews with hideous men and girl with curious hair his non fiction includes consider the lobster a supposedly fun thing ill never do again everything and more this is water and both flesh and not he died in 2008 the director's cut three times longer than the rs article is an incisive funny thoughtful piece about life on bullshit one the nickname for the press bus that followed mccain's straight talk express this piece becomes ever more relevant as we discuss what we know don't know and don't want to know about the way our political campaigns work from the author of infinite jest and consider the lobster a collection of five brilliant essays on tennis from the author's own experience as a junior player to his celebrated profile of roger federer at the peak of his powers a long time rabid fan of tennis and a regionally ranked tennis player in his youth david foster wallace wrote about the game like no one else on tennis presents david foster wallace s five essays on the sport published between 1990 and 2006 and hailed as some of the greatest and most innovative sports writing of our time this lively and entertaining collection begins with wallace s own experience as a prodigious tennis player derivative sport in tornado alley he also challenges the sports memoir genre how tracy austen broke my heart takes us to the us open democracy and commerce at the u s open and profiles of two of the world's greatest tennis players tennis player michael joyce's professional artistry as a paradigm of certain stuff about choice freedom limitation joy grotesquerie and human completeness and federer both flesh and not with infectious enthusiasm and enormous heart wallace s writing shows us the beauty complexity and brilliance of the game he loved best this celebrated collection of essays from the author of infinite jest is brilliantly entertaining

consider the lobster proves once more why wallace should be regarded as this generation s best comic writer cleveland plain dealer do lobsters feel pain did franz kafka have a funny bone what is john updike s deal anyway and what happens when adult video starlets meet their fans in person david foster wallace answers these questions and more in essays that are also enthralling narrative adventures whether covering the three ring circus of john mccain's 2000 presidential race plunging into the wars between dictionary writers or confronting the world s largest lobster cooker at the annual maine lobster festival wallace projects a quality of thought that is uniquely his and a voice as powerful and distinct as any in american letters wallace can do sad funny silly heartbreaking and absurd with equal ease he can even do them all at once michiko kakutani new york times beloved for his keen eye sharp wit and relentless self mockery david foster wallace has been celebrated by both critics and fans as the voice of a generation in this hilarious essay originally published in the collection a supposedly fun thing i II never do again he chronicles seven days in the caribbean aboard the m v zenith as he partakes in supposedly fun activities offered on the luxury tour he offers riotous anecdotes and unparalleled insight into contemporary american culture remarkable hilarious and unsettling re imaginations of reality by a dynamic writer of extraordinary talent new york times book review david foster wallace was one of america s most prodigiously talented and original young writers and girl with curious hair displays the full range of his gifts from the eerily real almost holographic evocations of historical figures such as lyndon johnson and overtelevised game show hosts and late night comedians to the title story in which terminal punk nihilism meets young republicanism wallace renders the incredible comprehensible the bizarre normal the absurd hilarious the familiar strange the character david foster wallace is introduced to the banal world of the irs regional examination center in peoria illinois and the host of strange people who work there in a novel that was unfinished at the time of the author's death sunday times and the new york times bestseller an epoch defining book matt haig if you read just one work of non fiction this year it should probably be this david sexton evening standard selected as a book of the year 2019 by the sunday times spectator and new statesman a waterstones paperback of the year and shortlisted for the foyles book of the year 2019 longlisted for the pen e o wilson literary science writing award it is worse much worse than you think the slowness of climate change is a fairy tale perhaps as pernicious as the one that says it isn t happening at all and if your anxiety about it is dominated by fears of sea level rise you are barely scratching the surface of what terrors are possible even within the lifetime of a teenager today over the past decades the term anthropocene has climbed into the popular imagination a name given to the geologic era we live in now one defined by human intervention in the life of the planet but however sanguine you might be about the proposition that we have ravaged the natural world which we surely have it is another thing entirely to consider the possibility that we have only provoked it engineering first in ignorance and then in denial a climate system that will now go to war with us for many centuries perhaps until it destroys us in the meantime it will remake us transforming every aspect of the way we live the planet no longer nurturing a dream of abundance but a living nightmare beloved for his keen eye sharp wit and relentless self mockery david foster wallace has been celebrated by both critics and fans as the voice of a generation in this hilarious essay originally published in the collection a supposedly fun thing ill never do again he chronicles seven days in the caribbean aboard the my zenith as he partakes in supposedly fun activities offered on the luxury tour he offers riotous anecdotes and unparalleled insight into contemporary american culture an instant classic of american sportswriting the tennis essays of david foster wallace the best mind of his generation a o scott and the best tennis writer of all time new york times gathered for the first time in a deluxe collector s edition here are david foster wallace s legendary writings on tennis five tour de force pieces written with a competitor s insight and a fan s obsessive enthusiasm wallace brings his dazzling literary magic to the game he loved as he celebrates the other worldly genius of roger federer offers a wickedly witty disection of tracy austin's memoir considers the artistry of michael joyce a supremely disciplined athlete on the threshold of fame resists the crush of commerce at the u s open and recalls his own career as a near great junior player whiting award winning writer john jeremiah sullivan provides an introduction presents david foster wallace critiques philosopher richard taylor s work implying that humans have no control over the future and includes essays linking wallace s critique with his later works of fiction david foster wallace and mark costello s exuberant exploration of rap music and culture living together in cambridge in 1989 david foster wallace and longtime friend mark costello discovered that they shared an uncomfortable somewhat furtive and distinctively white enthusiasm for a certain music called rap hip hop the book they wrote together set against the legendary boston music scene mapped the bipolarities of rap and pop rebellion and acceptance glitz and gangsterdom signifying rappers issued a fan s challenge to the giants of rock writing greil marcus robert palmer and lester bangs could the new street beats of 1989 set us free as rock had always promised back in print at last signifying rappers is a rare record of a city and a summer by two great thinkers writers and friends with a new foreword by mark costello on his experience writing with david foster wallace this rerelease cannot be missed in this thought provoking and playful short story collection david foster wallace nudges at the boundaries of fiction with inimitable wit and seductive intelligence wallace s stories present a world where the bizarre and the banal are interwoven and where

hideous men appear in many guises among the stories are the depressed person a dazzling and blackly humorous portrayal of a woman s mental state adult world which reveals a woman's agonized consideration of her confusing sexual relationship with her husband and brief interviews with hideous men a dark hilarious series of imagined interviews with men on the subject of their relations with women wallace delights in leftfield observation mining the absurd the surprising and the illuminating from every situation this collection will enthrall dfw fans and provides a perfect introduction for new readers this deluxe paperback edition featuring flaps new cover art and a new foreword by tom bissell celebrates the 20th anniversary of the original publication of infinite jest a gargantuan mind altering comedy about the pursuit of happiness in america set in an addicts halfway house and a tennis academy and featuring the most endearingly screwed up family to come along in recent fiction infinite jest explores essential questions about what entertainment is and why it has come to so dominate our lives about how our desire for entertainment affects our need to connect with other people and about what the pleasures we choose say about who we are equal parts philosophical quest and screwball comedy infinite jest bends every rule of fiction without sacrificing for a moment its own entertainment value it is an exuberant uniquely american exploration of the passions that make us human and one of those rare books that renew the idea of what a novel can do david foster wallace was heralded by critics and fans as the voice of a generation this book collects together 15 of wallace s essays from federer both flesh and not considered by many to be his non fiction masterpiece to the as it were seminal importance of terminator 2 his deft dissection of james cameron s blockbuster geoffrey chaucer is today enjoying a global renaissance why do poets translators and performers from the mountains of iran to the islands of japan find him so inspiring in part this is down to the absolutely ground breaking character of chaucer's work not for nothing was he known as the father of english literature his works were not just literary adventures but also the first ever attempt to convince the world that poetry science tragedy and astrology could all be explored through english at a time when english writing commanded no prestige at a european level born in noisy dockside london and then later a royal esquire chaucer was recognized by westminster as a wily civil servant a customs officer but not as a poet only much later did his westminister abbey burial place became poets corner a national shrine from shakespeare to sylvia plath writers have revelled in chaucer's unique expressive range high tragedy and barnyard farce religious allegory and sex up a pear tree farts and the music of the heavenly spheres today new performers are imagining new chaucers across the world from dust jacket in david foster wallace fiction and form david hering analyses the structures of david foster wallace s fiction from his debut the broom of the system to his final unfinished novel the pale king incorporating extensive analysis of wallace s drafts notes and letters and taking account of the rapidly expanding field of wallace scholarship this book argues that the form of wallace s fiction is always inextricably bound up within an ongoing conflict between the monologic and the dialogic one strongly connected with wallace s sense of his own authorial presence and identity in the work hering suggests that this conflict occurs at the level of both subject and composition analysing the importance of a number of provocative structural and critical contexts ghostliness institutionality reflection to the fiction while describing how this argument is also visible within the development of wallace s manuscripts comparing early drafts with published material to offer a career long framework of the construction of wallace s fiction the final chapter offers an unprecedentedly detailed analysis of the troubled decade long construction of the work that became the pale king what do we value why do we value it and in a neoliberal age can morality ever displace money as the primary means of defining value these are the questions that drove david foster wallace a writer widely credited with changing the face of contemporary fiction and moving it beyond an emotionless postmodern irony jeffrey severs argues in david foster wallace s balancing books that wallace was also deeply engaged with the social political and economic issues of the twentieth and twenty first centuries a rebellious economic thinker wallace satirized the deforming effects of money questioned the logic of the monetary system and saw the world through the lens of value s many hidden and untapped meanings in original readings of all of wallace s fiction from the broom of the system and infinite jest to his story collections and the pale king severs reveals wallace to be a thoroughly political writer whose works provide an often surreal history of financial crises and economic policies as severs demonstrates the concept of value occupied the intersection of wallace s major interests economics work metaphysics mathematics and morality severs ranges from the great depression and the new deal to the realms of finance insurance and taxation to detail wallace s quest for balance and grace in a world of excess and entropy wallace showed characters struggling to place two feet on the ground and restlessly sought to balance the books of a chaotic culture explaining why wallace s work has galvanized a new phase in contemporary global literature severs draws connections to key wallace forerunners don delillo thomas pynchon and william gaddis as well as his successors including dave eggers teddy wayne jonathan lethem and zadie smith interpreting wallace s legacy in terms of finance the gift and office life the essays in the story about the story vol ii chart a trajectory that digs deep into the past and aims toward a future in which literature can play a new and more profound role in how we think read live and write in the second volume of the story about the story editor j c hallman continues to argue for an alternative to the staid five paragraph essay writing that has

inoculated so many against the effects of good books writers have long approached writing about reading from an intensely personal perspective incorporating their pasts and their passions into their process of interpretation never before collected in a single volume the many essays hallman has compiled build on the idea of a creative criticism and offers new possibilities for how to write about reading the story about the story vol ii documents not only an identifiable trend in writing about books that can and should be emulated it also offers lessons from a remarkable range of celebrated authors that amount to an invaluable course on both how to write and how to read well whether they discuss a staple of the canon thomas mann on leo tolstoy the merits of a contemporary vivian gornick on grace paley a pillar of genre writing jane tompkins on louis I amour or arguably the funniest man on the planet david shields on bill murray these essays are by turns poignant smart suggestive intellectual humorous sassy scathing laudatory wistful and hopeful and above all deeply engaged in a process of careful reading the essays in the story about the story vol ii chart a trajectory that digs deep into the past and aims toward a future in which literature can play a new and more profound role in how we think read live and write part of the penguin orange collection a limited run series of twelve influential and beloved american classics in a bold series design offering a modern take on the iconic penguin paperback winner of the 2016 aiga design observer 50 books 50 covers competition for the seventieth anniversary of penguin classics the penguin orange collection celebrates the heritage of penguin s iconic book design with twelve influential american literary classics representing the breadth and diversity of the penguin classics library these collectible editions are dressed in the iconic orange and white tri band cover design first created in 1935 while french flaps high quality paper and striking cover illustrations provide the cutting edge design treatment that is the signature of penguin classics deluxe editions today the broom of the system the dazzling exhilarating san francisco chronicle debut novel from one of the most groundbreaking writers of his generation the broom of the system is an outlandishly funny and fiercely intelligent exploration of the paradoxes of language storytelling and reality is john mccain for real that s the question david foster wallace set out to explore when he first climbed aboard senator mccain's campaign caravan in february 2000 it was a moment when mccain was increasingly perceived as a harbinger of change the anticandidate whose goal was to inspire young americans to devote themselves to causes greater than their own self interest and many young americans were beginning to take notice to get at something riveting and unspinnable and true about john mccain wallace finds he must pierce the smoke screen of spin doctors and media manipulators and he succeeds in a characteristically potent blast of journalistic brio that not only captures the lunatic rough and tumble of a presidential campaign but also delivers a compelling inquiry into john mccain himself the senator the pow the campaign finance reformer the candidate the man one of the outstanding voices of his generation david foster wallace has won a large and devoted following for the intellectual ambition and bravura style of his fiction and essays now he brings his considerable talents to the history of one of math s most enduring puzzles the seemingly paradoxical nature of infinity is infinity a valid mathematical property or a meaningless abstraction the nineteenth century mathematical genius georg cantor s answer to this question not only surprised him but also shook the very foundations upon which math had been built cantor's counterintuitive discovery of a progression of larger and larger infinities created controversy in his time and may have hastened his mental breakdown but it also helped lead to the development of set theory analytic philosophy and even computer technology smart challenging and thoroughly rewarding wallace s tour de force brings immediate and high profile recognition to the bizarre and fascinating world of higher mathematics considered by many to be the greatest writer of his generation david foster wallace was at the height of his creative powers when he committed suicide in 2008 in a sweeping portrait of wallace s writing and thought and as a measure of his importance in literary history the legacy of david foster wallace gathers cutting edge field defining scholarship by critics alongside remembrances by many of his writer friends who include some of the world's most influential authors in this elegant volume literary critics scrutinize the existing wallace scholarship and at the same time pioneer new ways of understanding wallace s fiction and journalism in critical essays exploring a variety of topics including wallace s relationship to american literary history his place in literary journalism his complicated relationship to his postmodernist predecessors the formal difficulties of his 1996 magnum opus infinite jest his environmental imagination and the social life of his fiction and nonfiction contributors plumb sources as diverse as amazon com reader recommendations professional book reviews the 2009 infinite summer project and the david foster wallace archive at the university of texas s harry ransom center the creative writers including don delillo jonathan franzen george saunders rick moody dave eggers and david lipsky and wallace s little brown editor michael pietsch reflect on the person behind the volumes of fiction and nonfiction created during the author s too short life all of the essays critical and creative alike are written in an accessible style that does not presume any background in wallace criticism whether the reader is an expert in all things david foster wallace a casual fan of his fiction and nonfiction or completely new to wallace the legacy of david foster wallace will reveal the power and innovation that defined his contribution to literary life and to self understanding this illuminating volume is destined to shape our understanding of wallace his writing and his place in history in the stories that make up oblivion david foster wallace

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joins the rawest most naked humanity with the infinite involutions of self consciousness a combination that is dazzlingly uniquely his these are worlds undreamt of by any other mind only david foster wallace could convey a father s desperate loneliness by way of his son s daydreaming through a teacher s homicidal breakdown the soul is not a smithy or could explore the deepest and most hilarious aspects of creativity by delineating the office politics surrounding a magazine profile of an artist who produces miniature sculptures in an anatomically inconceivable way the suffering channel or capture the ache of love s breakdown in the painfully polite apologies of a man who believes his wife is hallucinating the sound of his snoring oblivion each of these stories is a complete world as fully imagined as most entire novels at once preposterously surreal and painfully immediate conversations with the author of a supposedly fun thing i II never do again brief interviews with hideous men and infinite jest a portrait of new york city in the roaring twenties the acclaimed new york times bestselling biography and emotionally detailed portrait of the artist as a young man michiko kakutani the new york times in the first biography of the iconic david foster wallace dt max paints the portrait of a man self conscious obsessive and struggling to find meaning if wallace was right when he declared he was frightfully and thoroughly conventional it is only because over the course of his short life and stunning career he wrestled intimately and relentlessly with the fundamental anxiety of being human in his characteristic lucid and guick witted style max untangles wallace s anxious sense of self his volatile and sometimes abusive connection with women and above all his fraught relationship with fiction as he emerges with his masterpiece infinite jest written with the cooperation of wallace s family and friends and with access to hundreds of unpublished letters manuscripts and journals this captivating biography unveils the life of the profoundly complicated man who gave voice to what we thought we could not say the wallace effect explores david foster wallace s contested space at the forefront of 21st century american fiction pioneering wallace scholar marshall boswell does this by illuminating the wallace effect the aura of literary competition that wallace routinely summoned in his fiction and non fiction and that continues to inform the reception of his work by his contemporaries a frankly combative writer wallace openly challenged his artistic predecessors as he sought to establish himself as the leading literary figure of the post postmodern turn boswell challenges this portrait in two ways first he examines novels by wallace s literary patriarchs and contemporaries that introduce innovations on traditional metafiction that wallace would later claim as his own second he explores four novels published after wallace s ascendency that attempt to demythologize wallace s persona and his literary preeminence by re situating wallace s work in a broader and more contentious literary arena the wallace effect traces both the reach and the limits of wallace s legacy

The Pale King

2011-04-15

the breathtakingly brilliant novel by the author of infinite jest new york times is a deeply compelling and satisfying story as hilarious and fearless and original as anything wallace ever wrote the agents at the irs regional examination center in peoria illinois appear ordinary enough to newly arrived trainee david foster wallace but as he immerses himself in a routine so tedious and repetitive that new employees receive boredom survival training he learns of the extraordinary variety of personalities drawn to this strange calling and he has arrived at a moment when forces within the irs are plotting to eliminate even what little humanity and dignity the work still has the pale king remained unfinished at the time of david foster wallace s death but it is a deeply compelling and satisfying novel hilarious and fearless and as original as anything wallace ever undertook it grapples directly with ultimate questions questions of life s meaning and of the value of work and society through characters imagined with the interior force and generosity that were wallace s unique gifts along the way it suggests a new idea of heroism and commands infinite respect for one of the most daring writers of our time the pale king is by turns funny shrewd suspenseful piercing smart terrifying and rousing laura miller salon

Oblivion: Stories

2012-06-28

a visionary a craftsman a comedian he can do anything with a piece of prose and it is a humbling experience to see him go to work on what has passed up till now as modern fiction he s so modern he s in a different time space continuum from the rest of us goddamn him zadie smith a recognised master of form and a brilliant recorder of human behaviour david foster wallace has been hailed as the most significant writer of his generation tls each new book confirms and extends his genius and this new short story collection is no exception in the stories that make up oblivion david foster wallace conjoins the rawest most naked humanity with the infinite convolutions of self consciousness a combination that is dazzlingly uniquely his wallace s talent is such that you can t help wondering how good can he get time out

David Foster Wallace and "The Long Thing"

2014-07-31

of the twelve books david foster wallace published both during his lifetime and posthumously only three were novels nevertheless wallace always thought of himself primarily as a novelist from his college years at amherst when he wrote his first novel as part of a creative honors thesis to his final days wallace was buried in a novel project which he often referred to as the long thing meanwhile the short stories and journalistic assignments he worked on during those years he characterized as playing hooky from a certain larger thing wallace was also a specific kind of novelist devoted to producing a specific kind of novel namely the omnivorous culture consuming encyclopedic novel as described in 1976 by edward mendelson in a ground breaking essay on thomas pynchon s gravity s rainbow david foster wallace and the long thing is a state of the art guide through wallace s three major works including the generation defining infinite jest these essays provide fresh new readings of each of wallace s novels as well as thematic essays that trace out patterns and connections across the three works most importantly the collection includes six chapters on wallace s unfinished novel the pale king which will prove to be foundational for future scholars of this important text

The David Foster Wallace Reader

2014-11-11

where do you begin with a writer as original and brilliant as david foster wallace here with a carefully considered selection of his extraordinary body of work chosen by a range of great writers critics and those who worked with him most closely this volume presents his most dazzling funniest and most heartbreaking work essays like his famous cruise ship piece a supposedly fun thing i ll never do again excerpts from his novels the broom of the system infinite jest and the pale king and legendary stories like the depressed person wallace s explorations of morality self consciousness addiction sports love and the many other subjects that occupied him are represented here in both fiction and nonfiction collected for the first time are wallace s first published story the view from planet trillaphon as seen in relation to the bad thing and a selection of his work as a writing instructor including reading lists grammar guides and general guidelines for his students a dozen writers and critics including hari kunzru anne fadiman and nam le add afterwords to favorite pieces expanding our appreciation of the unique pleasures of wallace s writing the result is an astonishing volume that shows the breadth and range of one of america s most daring and talented writers los angeles times book review whose work was full of humor insight and beauty

Everything and More: A Compact History of Infinity

2010-09-21

the period from the 5th to the 7th century ad was characterised by far reaching structural changes that affected the entire west of the roman empire this process used to be regarded by scholars aspart of the dissolution of roman order but in current discussions it is nowexamined more critically the contributions to this volume of conference papers combine approaches from history and literature studies in order to review the changing forms and fields of the establishment of collective identities and to analyse them in their mutual relationships

A Supposedly Fun Thing I'll Never Do Again

2012-06-28

a collection of insightful and uproariously funny non fiction by the bestselling author of infinite jest one of the most acclaimed and adventurous writers of our time a supposedly fun thing brings together wallace s musings on a wide range of topics from his early days as a nationally ranked tennis player to his trip on a commercial cruiseliner in each of these essays wallace s observations are as keen as they are funny filled with hilarious details and invigorating analyses these essays brilliantly expose the fault line in american culture and once again reveal david foster wallace s extraordinary talent and gargantuan intellect

David Foster Wallace

2012

charts the growth both personal and artistic of a uniquely talented and cherished writer frequently labelled the best of his generation in addition to wallace s last interview given to the wall street journal weeks before his death the volume features a legendary interview with russian journalist ostap karmodi and a conversation with cleveland state university s whiskey island magazine from early in wallace s career these conversations showcase and illuminate the traits for which wallace is so highly regarded

Something to Do with Paying Attention

2022-04-05

a posthumously published novella with a title supplied by the publisher

David Foster Wallace: The Last Interview Expanded with New Introduction

2018-08-28

an expanded edition featuring new interviews and an introduction by the editor a new york times journalist and friend of the author a unique selection of the best interviews given by david foster wallace including the last he gave before his suicide in 2008 complete with an introduction by foster wallace s friend and ny times journalist david streitfeld and including a new never before published interview between streitfeld and wallace

A Supposedly Fun Thing I'll Never Do Again

2009-11-23

these widely acclaimed essays from the author of infinite jest on television tennis cruise ships and more established david foster wallace as one of the preeminent essayists of his generation in this exuberantly praised book a collection of seven pieces on subjects ranging from television to tennis from the illinois state fair to the films of david lynch from postmodern literary theory to the supposed fun of traveling aboard a caribbean luxury cruiseliner david foster wallace brings to nonfiction the same curiosity hilarity and exhilarating verbal facility that has delighted readers of his fiction including the bestselling infinite jest

Infinite Jest

2011-04-14

a writer of virtuostic talents who can seemingly do anything new york times wallace is a superb comedian of culture his exuberance and intellectual impishness are a delight james wood guardian he induces the kind of laughter which when read in bed with a sleeping partner wakes said sleeping partner up he s damn good nicholas lezard guardian one of the best books about addiction and recovery to appear in recent memory sunday times somewhere in the not so distant future the residents of ennet house a boston halfway house for recovering addicts and students at the nearby enfield tennis academy are ensnared in the search for the master copy of infinite jest a movie said to be so dangerously entertaining its

viewers become entranced and expire in a state of catatonic bliss

Both Flesh And Not

2012-11-29

both flesh and not is an collection of essays and writing from the virtuosic genius david foster wallace beloved for his brilliantly discerning eye his verbal elasticity and his uniquely generous imagination david foster wallace was heralded by critics and fans as the voice of a generation collected here are fifteen essays published for the first time in book form including writing never published before in the uk from federer both flesh and not considered by many to be his non fiction masterpiece to the as it were seminal importance of terminator 2 which deftly dissects james cameron s blockbuster to fictional futures and the conspicuously young an examination of television s effect on a new generation of writers the writing collected here swoops from erudite literary discussion to open hearted engagement with the most familiar of our twentieth century cultural references a celebration of wallace s great loves for language for precision for meaning and a feast of enjoyment for his fans both flesh and not is a fitting tribute to this writer who was never concerned with anything less important than what it means to be alive praise for david foster wallace a visionary a craftsman a comedian he s in a different time space continuum from the rest of us zadie smith wallace s essays brim with cerebral energy acute observation and fizzing wit enviably good sunday times wallace s exuberance and intellectual impishness are a delight a superb comedian of culture guardian james wood david foster wallace wrote the novels infinite jest and the broom of the system and the short story collections oblivion brief interviews with hideous men and girl with curious hair his non fiction includes consider the lobster a supposedly fun thing i ll never do again everything and more this is water and both flesh and not he died in 2008

Up, Simba!

2000-09-15

the director's cut three times longer than the rs article is an incisive funny thoughtful piece about life on bullshit one the nickname for the press bus that followed mccain's straight talk express this piece becomes ever more relevant as we discuss what we know don't know and don't want to know about the way our political campaigns work

On Tennis

2014-06-24

from the author of infinite jest and consider the lobster a collection of five brilliant essays on tennis from the author s own experience as a junior player to his celebrated profile of roger federer at the peak of his powers a long time rabid fan of tennis and a regionally ranked tennis player in his youth david foster wallace wrote about the game like no one else on tennis presents david foster wallace s five essays on the sport published between 1990 and 2006 and hailed as some of the greatest and most innovative sports writing of our time this lively and entertaining collection begins with wallace s own experience as a prodigious tennis player derivative sport in tornado alley he also challenges the sports memoir genre how tracy austen broke my heart takes us to the us open democracy and commerce at the u s open and profiles of two of the world s greatest tennis players tennis player michael joyce s professional artistry as a paradigm of certain stuff about choice freedom limitation joy grotesquerie and human completeness and federer both flesh and not with infectious enthusiasm

and enormous heart wallace s writing shows us the beauty complexity and brilliance of the game he loved best

Consider the Lobster

2005-12-01

this celebrated collection of essays from the author of infinite jest is brilliantly entertaining consider the lobster proves once more why wallace should be regarded as this generation s best comic writer cleveland plain dealer do lobsters feel pain did franz kafka have a funny bone what is john updike s deal anyway and what happens when adult video starlets meet their fans in person david foster wallace answers these questions and more in essays that are also enthralling narrative adventures whether covering the three ring circus of john mccain s 2000 presidential race plunging into the wars between dictionary writers or confronting the world s largest lobster cooker at the annual maine lobster festival wallace projects a quality of thought that is uniquely his and a voice as powerful and distinct as any in american letters wallace can do sad funny silly heartbreaking and absurd with equal ease he can even do them all at once michiko kakutani new york times

A Supposedly Fun Thing I'll Never Do Again: An Essay (Digital Original)

2012-04-01

beloved for his keen eye sharp wit and relentless self mockery david foster wallace has been celebrated by both critics and fans as the voice of a generation in this hilarious essay originally published in the collection a supposedly fun thing ill never do again he chronicles seven days in the caribbean aboard the m v zenith as he partakes in supposedly fun activities offered on the luxury tour he offers riotous anecdotes and unparalleled insight into contemporary american culture

Girl With Curious Hair

2014-09-23

remarkable hilarious and unsettling re imaginations of reality by a dynamic writer of extraordinary talent new york times book review david foster wallace was one of america s most prodigiously talented and original young writers and girl with curious hair displays the full range of his gifts from the eerily real almost holographic evocations of historical figures such as lyndon johnson and overtelevised game show hosts and late night comedians to the title story in which terminal punk nihilism meets young republicanism wallace renders the incredible comprehensible the bizarre normal the absurd hilarious the familiar strange

The Pale King

2011

the character david foster wallace is introduced to the banal world of the irs regional examination center in peoria illinois and the host of strange people who work there in a novel that

was unfinished at the time of the author's death

The Uninhabitable Earth

2019-02-19

sunday times and the new york times bestseller an epoch defining book matt haig if you read just one work of non fiction this year it should probably be this david sexton evening standard selected as a book of the year 2019 by the sunday times spectator and new statesman a waterstones paperback of the year and shortlisted for the foyles book of the year 2019 longlisted for the pen e o wilson literary science writing award it is worse much worse than you think the slowness of climate change is a fairy tale perhaps as pernicious as the one that says it isn t happening at all and if your anxiety about it is dominated by fears of sea level rise you are barely scratching the surface of what terrors are possible even within the lifetime of a teenager today over the past decades the term anthropocene has climbed into the popular imagination a name given to the geologic era we live in now one defined by human intervention in the life of the planet but however sanguine you might be about the proposition that we have ravaged the natural world which we surely have it is another thing entirely to consider the possibility that we have only provoked it engineering first in ignorance and then in denial a climate system that will now go to war with us for many centuries perhaps until it destroys us in the meantime it will remake us transforming every aspect of the way we live the planet no longer nurturing a dream of abundance but a living nightmare

Getting Away from Already Being Pretty Much Away from It All

2012-04-01

beloved for his keen eye sharp wit and relentless self mockery david foster wallace has been celebrated by both critics and fans as the voice of a generation in this hilarious essay originally published in the collection a supposedly fun thing ill never do again he chronicles seven days in the caribbean aboard the m v zenith as he partakes in supposedly fun activities offered on the luxury tour he offers riotous anecdotes and unparalleled insight into contemporary american culture

String Theory: David Foster Wallace on Tennis

2016-05-10

an instant classic of american sportswriting the tennis essays of david foster wallace the best mind of his generation a o scott and the best tennis writer of all time new york times gathered for the first time in a deluxe collector s edition here are david foster wallace s legendary writings on tennis five tour de force pieces written with a competitor s insight and a fan s obsessive enthusiasm wallace brings his dazzling literary magic to the game he loved as he celebrates the other worldly genius of roger federer offers a wickedly witty disection of tracy austin s memoir considers the artistry of michael joyce a supremely disciplined athlete on the threshold of fame resists the crush of commerce at the u s open and recalls his own career as a near great junior player whiting award winning writer john jeremiah sullivan provides an introduction

Fate, Time, and Language

2011

presents david foster wallace critiques philosopher richard taylor s work implying that humans have no control over the future and includes essays linking wallace s critique with his later works of fiction

Signifying Rappers

2013-07-23

david foster wallace and mark costello s exuberant exploration of rap music and culture living together in cambridge in 1989 david foster wallace and longtime friend mark costello discovered that they shared an uncomfortable somewhat furtive and distinctively white enthusiasm for a certain music called rap hip hop the book they wrote together set against the legendary boston music scene mapped the bipolarities of rap and pop rebellion and acceptance glitz and gangsterdom signifying rappers issued a fan s challenge to the giants of rock writing greil marcus robert palmer and lester bangs could the new street beats of 1989 set us free as rock had always promised back in print at last signifying rappers is a rare record of a city and a summer by two great thinkers writers and friends with a new foreword by mark costello on his experience writing with david foster wallace this rerelease cannot be missed

Brief Interviews with Hideous Men

2009-09-24

in this thought provoking and playful short story collection david foster wallace nudges at the boundaries of fiction with inimitable wit and seductive intelligence wallace s stories present a world where the bizarre and the banal are interwoven and where hideous men appear in many guises among the stories are the depressed person a dazzling and blackly humorous portrayal of a woman s mental state adult world which reveals a woman s agonized consideration of her confusing sexual relationship with her husband and brief interviews with hideous men a dark hilarious series of imagined interviews with men on the subject of their relations with women wallace delights in leftfield observation mining the absurd the surprising and the illuminating from every situation this collection will enthrall dfw fans and provides a perfect introduction for new readers

Infinite Jest

2016-02-23

this deluxe paperback edition featuring flaps new cover art and a new foreword by tom bissell celebrates the 20th anniversary of the original publication of infinite jest a gargantuan mind altering comedy about the pursuit of happiness in america set in an addicts halfway house and a tennis academy and featuring the most endearingly screwed up family to come along in recent fiction infinite jest explores essential questions about what entertainment is and why it has come to so dominate our lives about how our desire for entertainment affects our need to connect with other people and about what the pleasures we choose say about who we are equal parts philosophical quest and screwball comedy infinite jest bends every

rule of fiction without sacrificing for a moment its own entertainment value it is an exuberant uniquely american exploration of the passions that make us human and one of those rare books that renew the idea of what a novel can do

Both Flesh and Not

2013

david foster wallace was heralded by critics and fans as the voice of a generation this book collects together 15 of wallace s essays from federer both flesh and not considered by many to be his non fiction masterpiece to the as it were seminal importance of terminator 2 his deft dissection of james cameron s blockbuster

Geoffrey Chaucer

2017

geoffrey chaucer is today enjoying a global renaissance why do poets translators and performers from the mountains of iran to the islands of japan find him so inspiring in part this is down to the absolutely ground breaking character of chaucer s work not for nothing was he known as the father of english literature his works were not just literary adventures but also the first ever attempt to convince the world that poetry science tragedy and astrology could all be explored through english at a time when english writing commanded no prestige at a european level born in noisy dockside london and then later a royal esquire chaucer was recognized by westminster as a wily civil servant a customs officer but not as a poet only much later did his westminister abbey burial place became poets corner a national shrine from shakespeare to sylvia plath writers have revelled in chaucer s unique expressive range high tragedy and barnyard farce religious allegory and sex up a pear tree farts and the music of the heavenly spheres today new performers are imagining new chaucers across the world from dust jacket

David Foster Wallace: Fiction and Form

2016-09-08

in david foster wallace fiction and form david hering analyses the structures of david foster wallace s fiction from his debut the broom of the system to his final unfinished novel the pale king incorporating extensive analysis of wallace s drafts notes and letters and taking account of the rapidly expanding field of wallace scholarship this book argues that the form of wallace s fiction is always inextricably bound up within an ongoing conflict between the monologic and the dialogic one strongly connected with wallace s sense of his own authorial presence and identity in the work hering suggests that this conflict occurs at the level of both subject and composition analysing the importance of a number of provocative structural and critical contexts ghostliness institutionality reflection to the fiction while describing how this argument is also visible within the development of wallace s manuscripts comparing early drafts with published material to offer a career long framework of the construction of wallace s fiction the final chapter offers an unprecedentedly detailed analysis of the troubled decade long construction of the work that became the pale king

David Foster Wallace's Balancing Books

2017-01-03

what do we value why do we value it and in a neoliberal age can morality ever displace money as the primary means of defining value these are the questions that drove david foster wallace a writer widely credited with changing the face of contemporary fiction and moving it beyond an emotionless postmodern irony jeffrey severs argues in david foster wallace s balancing books that wallace was also deeply engaged with the social political and economic issues of the twentieth and twenty first centuries a rebellious economic thinker wallace satirized the deforming effects of money questioned the logic of the monetary system and saw the world through the lens of value s many hidden and untapped meanings in original readings of all of wallace s fiction from the broom of the system and infinite jest to his story collections and the pale king severs reveals wallace to be a thoroughly political writer whose works provide an often surreal history of financial crises and economic policies as severs demonstrates the concept of value occupied the intersection of wallace s major interests economics work metaphysics mathematics and morality severs ranges from the great depression and the new deal to the realms of finance insurance and taxation to detail wallace s quest for balance and grace in a world of excess and entropy wallace showed characters struggling to place two feet on the ground and restlessly sought to balance the books of a chaotic culture explaining why wallace s work has galvanized a new phase in contemporary global literature severs draws connections to key wallace forerunners don delillo thomas pynchon and william gaddis as well as his successors including dave eggers teddy wayne jonathan lethem and zadie smith interpreting wallace s legacy in terms of finance the gift and office life

The Story About the Story Vol. II

2013-09-24

the essays in the story about the story vol ii chart a trajectory that digs deep into the past and aims toward a future in which literature can play a new and more profound role in how we think read live and write in the second volume of the story about the story editor j c hallman continues to argue for an alternative to the staid five paragraph essay writing that has inoculated so many against the effects of good books writers have long approached writing about reading from an intensely personal perspective incorporating their pasts and their passions into their process of interpretation never before collected in a single volume the many essays hallman has compiled build on the idea of a creative criticism and offers new possibilities for how to write about reading the story about the story vol ii documents not only an identifiable trend in writing about books that can and should be emulated it also offers lessons from a remarkable range of celebrated authors that amount to an invaluable course on both how to write and how to read well whether they discuss a staple of the canon thomas mann on leo tolstoy the merits of a contemporary vivian gornick on grace paley a pillar of genre writing jane tompkins on louis I amour or arguably the funniest man on the planet david shields on bill murray these essays are by turns poignant smart suggestive intellectual humorous sassy scathing laudatory wistful and hopeful and above all deeply engaged in a process of careful reading the essays in the story about the story vol ii chart a trajectory that digs deep into the past and aims toward a future in which literature can play a new and more profound role in how we think read live and write

The Broom of the System

2016-10-18

part of the penguin orange collection a limited run series of twelve influential and beloved american classics in a bold series design offering a modern take on the iconic penguin paperback winner of the 2016 aiga design observer 50 books 50 covers competition for the seventieth anniversary of penguin classics the penguin orange collection celebrates the heritage of penguin s iconic book design with twelve influential american literary classics representing the breadth and diversity of the penguin classics library these collectible editions are dressed in the iconic orange and white tri band cover design first created in 1935 while french flaps high quality paper and striking cover illustrations provide the cutting edge design treatment that is the signature of penguin classics deluxe editions today the broom of the system the dazzling exhilarating san francisco chronicle debut novel from one of the most groundbreaking writers of his generation the broom of the system is an outlandishly funny and fiercely intelligent exploration of the paradoxes of language storytelling and reality

David Foster Wallace and "The Long Thing"

2014

is john mccain for real that s the question david foster wallace set out to explore when he first climbed aboard senator mccain s campaign caravan in february 2000 it was a moment when mccain was increasingly perceived as a harbinger of change the anticandidate whose goal was to inspire young americans to devote themselves to causes greater than their own self interest and many young americans were beginning to take notice to get at something riveting and unspinnable and true about john mccain wallace finds he must pierce the smoke screen of spin doctors and media manipulators and he succeeds in a characteristically potent blast of journalistic brio that not only captures the lunatic rough and tumble of a presidential campaign but also delivers a compelling inquiry into john mccain himself the senator the pow the campaign finance reformer the candidate the man

McCain's Promise

2008-06-01

one of the outstanding voices of his generation david foster wallace has won a large and devoted following for the intellectual ambition and bravura style of his fiction and essays now he brings his considerable talents to the history of one of math s most enduring puzzles the seemingly paradoxical nature of infinity is infinity a valid mathematical property or a meaningless abstraction the nineteenth century mathematical genius georg cantor s answer to this question not only surprised him but also shook the very foundations upon which math had been built cantor s counterintuitive discovery of a progression of larger and larger infinities created controversy in his time and may have hastened his mental breakdown but it also helped lead to the development of set theory analytic philosophy and even computer technology smart challenging and thoroughly rewarding wallace s tour de force brings immediate and high profile recognition to the bizarre and fascinating world of higher mathematics

Everything and More

2003

considered by many to be the greatest writer of his generation david foster wallace was at the height of his creative powers when he committed suicide in 2008 in a sweeping portrait of wallace s writing and thought and as a measure of his importance in literary history the legacy of david foster wallace gathers cutting edge field defining scholarship by critics alongside remembrances by many of his writer friends who include some of the world s most influential authors in this elegant volume literary critics scrutinize the existing wallace scholarship

and at the same time pioneer new ways of understanding wallace s fiction and journalism in critical essays exploring a variety of topics including wallace s relationship to american literary history his place in literary journalism his complicated relationship to his postmodernist predecessors the formal difficulties of his 1996 magnum opus infinite jest his environmental imagination and the social life of his fiction and nonfiction contributors plumb sources as diverse as amazon com reader recommendations professional book reviews the 2009 infinite summer project and the david foster wallace archive at the university of texas s harry ransom center the creative writers including don delillo jonathan franzen george saunders rick moody dave eggers and david lipsky and wallace s little brown editor michael pietsch reflect on the person behind the volumes of fiction and nonfiction created during the author s too short life all of the essays critical and creative alike are written in an accessible style that does not presume any background in wallace criticism whether the reader is an expert in all things david foster wallace a casual fan of his fiction and nonfiction or completely new to wallace the legacy of david foster wallace will reveal the power and innovation that defined his contribution to literary life and to self understanding this illuminating volume is destined to shape our understanding of wallace his writing and his place in history

The Legacy of David Foster Wallace

2012-04-15

in the stories that make up oblivion david foster wallace joins the rawest most naked humanity with the infinite involutions of self consciousness a combination that is dazzlingly uniquely his these are worlds undreamt of by any other mind only david foster wallace could convey a father s desperate loneliness by way of his son s daydreaming through a teacher s homicidal breakdown the soul is not a smithy or could explore the deepest and most hilarious aspects of creativity by delineating the office politics surrounding a magazine profile of an artist who produces miniature sculptures in an anatomically inconceivable way the suffering channel or capture the ache of love s breakdown in the painfully polite apologies of a man who believes his wife is hallucinating the sound of his snoring oblivion each of these stories is a complete world as fully imagined as most entire novels at once preposterously surreal and painfully immediate

Oblivion

2005-08-30

conversations with the author of a supposedly fun thing i ll never do again brief interviews with hideous men and infinite jest

Conversations with David Foster Wallace

2012-03-08

a portrait of new york city in the roaring twenties

Capital of the World

2012-09-04

the acclaimed new york times bestselling biography and emotionally detailed portrait of the artist as a young man michiko kakutani the new york times in the first biography of the iconic david foster wallace d t max paints the portrait of a man self conscious obsessive and struggling to find meaning if wallace was right when he declared he was frightfully and thoroughly conventional it is only because over the course of his short life and stunning career he wrestled intimately and relentlessly with the fundamental anxiety of being human in his characteristic lucid and quick witted style max untangles wallace s anxious sense of self his volatile and sometimes abusive connection with women and above all his fraught relationship with fiction as he emerges with his masterpiece infinite jest written with the cooperation of wallace s family and friends and with access to hundreds of unpublished letters manuscripts and journals this captivating biography unveils the life of the profoundly complicated man who gave voice to what we thought we could not say

Every Love Story Is a Ghost Story

2012-08-30

the wallace effect explores david foster wallace s contested space at the forefront of 21st century american fiction pioneering wallace scholar marshall boswell does this by illuminating the wallace effect the aura of literary competition that wallace routinely summoned in his fiction and non fiction and that continues to inform the reception of his work by his contemporaries a frankly combative writer wallace openly challenged his artistic predecessors as he sought to establish himself as the leading literary figure of the post postmodern turn boswell challenges this portrait in two ways first he examines novels by wallace s literary patriarchs and contemporaries that introduce innovations on traditional metafiction that wallace would later claim as his own second he explores four novels published after wallace s ascendency that attempt to demythologize wallace s persona and his literary preeminence by re situating wallace s work in a broader and more contentious literary arena the wallace effect traces both the reach and the limits of wallace s legacy

The Wallace Effect

2019-01-24

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