

Fiction in the Sixties and the Notion of Change: American and European Concepts of Postmodernism

- Witold Gombrowicz, *Ferdydurke* (1937)
- William Gaddis, *The Recognitions* (1955)
- Thomas Pynchon, *V.* (1963)
- Thomas Pynchon, *The Crying of Lot 49* (1966)
- John Barth, "The Literature of Exhaustion" (1967)
- John Barth, *Lost in the Funhouse* (1968)
- Robert Coover, *Pricksongs and Descants* (1969)
- Ihab Hassan, *The Dismemberment of Orpheus: Toward a Postmodern Literature* (1971)
- Donald Barthelme, "I Bought a Little City" (1974)
- William Gaddis, *J R* (1975)

from Ihab Hassan's *Dismemberment of Orpheus*

Modernism	Postmodernism
Romanticism/Symbolism	Pataphysics/Dadaism
Form (conjunctive, closed)	Antiform (disjunctive, open)
Purpose	Play
Design	Chance
Hierarchy	Anarchy
Mastery/Logos	Exhaustion/Silence
Art Object / Finished Work	Process/Performance/Happening
Distance	Participation
Creation/Totalization	Decreation/Deconstruction
Synthesis	Antithesis
Presence	Absence
Centering	Dispersal
Genre/Boundary	Text/Intertext
Semantics	Rhetoric
Paradigm	Syntagm
Hypotaxis	Parataxis
Metaphor	Metonymy
Selection	Combination
Root/Depth	Rhizome/Surface
Interpretation/Reading	Against Interpretation / Misreading
Signified	Signifier
<i>Lisible</i> (Readerly)	<i>Scriptable</i> (Writerly)
Narrative / <i>Grande Histoire</i>	Anti-narrative / <i>Petit Histoire</i>
Master Code	Idiolect
Symptom	Desire
Type	Mutant
Genital/Phallic	Polymorphous/Androgynous
Paranoia	Schizophrenia
Origin / Cause	Difference-Difference / Trace
God the Father	The Holy Ghost
Metaphysics	Irony
Determinacy	Indeterminacy
Transcendence	Immanence