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Conversations with Graham Swift Graham Swift Graham Swift Here We Are Out of This World □□□□□□□□ The Sweet Shop Owner England and Other Stories The Light of Day Shuttlecock Understanding Graham Swift Waterland Ever After A Study Guide for Graham Swift's "Waterland" Last Orders Wish You Were Here Reading Graham Swift Mothering Sunday Making An Elephant Reading Graham Swift Last Orders Learning to Swim Tomorrow □□□□□□□□□□ Here We Are Waterland Graham Swift Making an Elephant Desde aquel día Trauma and Ethics in the Novels of Graham Swift Learning to Swim and Other Stories Reading the Novel in English 1950 - 2000 Shuttlecock Critical Perspectives on Resistance in 21st-Century British Literature Writers Talk Virginia Woolf and Graham Swift Ambiguous Selves The Way We Write Voices and Silence in the Contemporary Novel in English An Aesthetics of Vulnerability

Conversations with Graham Swift 2020-06-04 conversations with graham swift is the first collection of interviews conducted with the author of the booker prize winning novel last orders beginning in 1985 with swift s arrival in new york to promote waterland and concluding with an interview from 2016 that appeared in the sydney morning herald the collection spans swift s more than thirty five year career as a writer the volume also includes interviews first printed in english as well as translated from the french or spanish and covers a wide range of formats from lengthier interviews published in standard academic journals to those for radio newspapers and more recently podcasts in these interviews graham swift b 1949 offers insights into his life and career including his friendships with other contemporary writers like ted hughes and the group of celebrated novelists who emerged in britain during the eighties with remarkable clarity swift discusses the themes of his novels and short stories death love history parent child relationships the power of the imagination the role of storytelling and the consequences of knowing he also notes the influences literary and personal that have helped shape his writing career while quite ordinary in his life and daily habits swift reveals his penetrating intellect and rich imagination an imagination that can craft some of the most engaging and formally complex stories in the language

Graham Swift 2006 graham swift is among the foremost contemporary british writers having published seven highly acclaimed novels which are widely read by students and general public alike waterland has become a modern classic and last orders won the booker

prize for fiction in 2006 this study covers all swift s novels to the light of day it offers a close reading of each of the novels exploring the innovative formal strategies and identifying such recurrent themes as the presence of the past in the present the blurring of distinctions between history and story fact and fiction and the possibilities of redemption in a contemporary social and emotional wasteland for the most part set in an urban middle class claustrophobic and loveless present and focused on usually fraught relationships between husbands and wives parents and children these recognisably postmodern novels are seen here as symptomatic of contemporary britain a world where in the shadow of the nuclear holocaust we approach the end o

Graham Swift 2005 this book offers an accessible critical introduction to the work of graham swift one of britain s most significant contemporary authors through detailed readings of his novels and short stories from the sweet shop owner to the light of day daniel lea lucidly addresses the key themes of history loss masculinity and ethical redemption to present a fresh approach to swift

Here We Are 2020-02-27 it is brighton 1959 and the theatre at the end of the pier is having its best summer season in years ronnie a brilliant young magician and evie his dazzling assistant are top of the bill drawing audiences each night meanwhile jack jack robinson as in before you can say is everyone s favourite compère a born entertainer holding the whole show together as the summer progresses the off stage drama between the three begins to overshadow their theatrical success and events unfold which will have lasting consequences

for all their futures rich comic alive and subtly devastating here we are is a masterly piece of literary magic which pulls back the curtain on the human condition one to watch for 2020 according to the sunday times the times the daily telegraph the guardian financial times evening standard the scotsman the irish times he tells simple truthful stories about what feel like real people here we are is a welcome addition to a proud legacy the big issue the variety of voices and its historical and emotional reach are so finely entwined it is as perfect and smooth as an egg passages leap out all the time demanding to be reread or committed to memory it is perhaps too simple to say that swift creates a form of fictional magic but what he can do with a page is out of the ordinary far beyond most mortals ken rosemary goring the herald here we are is a subtle portrait of a vanished world with moving passages about the problems of wartime evacuees returning to impoverished london life after the wonders of the countryside the independent in here we are swift does not just dwell on the pivotal moments of our lives but traces their shockwaves both forward and back moving seamlessly from pre war to post from the events of one illusory youthful summer to the present we are given candid access to the innermost reflections of three people who loved and betrayed each other the end result is the stuff of life an enduring mystery that ronnie evie jack that we all must live with i thought it was wonderful joseph knox author of sirens as with all his books it s the moments of quiet undramatic poignancy that stay with you sunday express a quietly devastating magical novel telegraph with a wizardry of his own swift conjures up an about to disappear little world and turns it into

something of wider resonance Sunday Times praise for Mothering Sunday bathed in light and even when tragedy strikes it blazes irresistibly Swift's small fiction feels like a masterpiece guardian alive with sensuousness and sensuality wonderfully accomplished it is an achievement Sunday Times from start to finish Swift's is a novel of stylish brilliance and quiet narrative verve the archly modulated precise prose a hybrid of Henry Green and Kazuo Ishiguro is a glory to read now 66 Swift is a writer at the very top of his game evening standard Mothering Sunday is a powerful philosophical and exquisitely observed novel about the lives we lead and the parallel lives the parallel stories we can never know it may just be Swift's best novel yet Observer

Out of This World 2012-01-26 in 1972 Robert Beech first world war survivor and present day armaments maker is killed by a car bomb the event breaks the career of his son Harry a news photographer and comes close to destroying his granddaughter Sophie ten years later the Falklands war has begun and both Harry now working as an aerial photographer and Sophie visiting an analyst in New York are haunted by a past that has scarred and divided them as tense as a thriller a powerful and exciting book that raises uncomfortable political questions the times it appeals to the emotions the intellect and the imagination and its elegance is as durable as Greek art a novel for those who still believe in the importance of fiction indeed of art Scotsman the novel succeeds brilliantly the impression is of having been shown all the majesty as well as the emotional complexity of history time out not a book the reader is likely to forget *Out of This World* deserves to be ranked at the forefront of

polly who have come to their own anglo irish understanding and charlie and don who have seen the docks turn into docklands daisy baker who is terrified of yorkshire and johnny dewhurst stranded on exmoor graham swift steers us effortlessly from the seventeenth century to the present day from world shaking events to the secret dramas lived out in rooms workplaces homes with these open eyed eloquent and often comic stories swift charts a human geography that moves us profoundly

The Light of Day 2018-02-22 from the bestselling author of mothering sunday and last orders and reissued for the first time on the scribner list the light of day is both a gripping crime story and a remarkable love story on a cold but dazzling november morning george webb a former policeman turned private detective prepares to visit sarah a prisoner and the woman he loves as he goes about the business of the day he relives the catastrophic events of two years ago that have both bound them together and kept them apart making atmospheric use of its suburban setting and shot through with a plain man s unwitting poetry and rueful humour the light of day is a powerful and moving tale of murder redemption and of the discovery for better or worse of the hidden forces inside us praise for mothering sunday bathed in light and even when tragedy strikes it blazes irresistibly swift s small fiction feels like a masterpiece guardian alive with sensuousness and sensuality wonderfully accomplished it is an achievement sunday times from start to finish swift s is a novel of stylish brilliance and quiet narrative verve the archly modulated precise prose a hybrid of henry green and kazuo ishiguro is a glory to read now 66 swift is a writer at the

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Shuttlecock 2019-07-11 from the bestselling author of last orders and mothering sunday reissued for the first time in scribner prentis employed in the police archives is becoming confused his obsession with the plight of his father a wartime hero now the mute inmate of a mental hospital is alienating him from his wife and children while at work he feels under scrutiny from his intimidating boss quinn gradually prentis suspects that his father s breakdown and quinn s menacing behaviour are related and that the connection is to be found in his father s memoir shuttlecock shuttlecock is an intense psychological thriller and much more with poignant force and sometimes dark comedy it links the secrecies and quirks of domestic life with the enigmas and violence of crime and war a small masterpiece the guardian excellent profound alan hollinghurst

Understanding Graham Swift 2003 malcolm discusses the novelist s use of major twentieth century historical events to shape and deform the lives of his characters his focus on the distortions and evasions that characterize the discussion of personal local and national histories and his fascination with the complexities sufferings and joys that mark individual lives malcolm suggests that despite swift s dark vision of human suffering he tempers his writing with an intermittent focus on that which can redeem our failures our losses and our cruelties book jacket

Waterland 1992-03-31 set in the bleak fen country of east anglia and spanning some 240 years in the lives of its haunted narrator and his ancestors waterland is a book that takes in eels and incest ale making and madness the heartless sweep of history and a family romance as tormented as any in greek tragedy waterland like the hardy novels carries with all else a profound knowledge of a people a place and their interweaving swift tells his tale with wonderful contemporary verve and verbal felicity a fine and original work los angeles times

Ever After 2019-07-11 from the bestselling author of last orders and mothering sunday reissued for the first time in scribner bill unwinn an academic of dubious status has never recovered from the death of his famous actress wife and is now convalescing from a recent brush with his own mortality he has two tales to tell one spanning post war paris 1950s soho and contemporary sexual and scholarly entanglements surveys the muddle of his own life the other drawn from the notebooks of a victorian ancestor is the very different story of matthew pearce a serious minded man whose happiness is destroyed by his compulsive search for truth bill s recollections of his beautiful wife his wayward mother and his philandering stepfather his wry reflections on his present plight and his unexpected bond with the forgotten matthew combine to form a potent and moving mental quest embracing two centuries and a host of subjects from ballet dancers and prehistoric beasts to the bewildering persistence of love it asks nothing less than the eternal question why should things matter a perfect piece of literary art the spectator masterfully done washington post

A Study Guide for Graham Swift's "Waterland" 2016-06-29 a study guide for graham swift s waterland excerpted from gale s acclaimed novels for students this concise study guide includes plot summary character analysis author biography study questions historical context suggestions for further reading and much more for any literature project trust novels for students for all of your research needs

Last Orders 2012-09-19 four men gather in a london pub they have taken it upon themselves to carry out the last orders of jack dodds master butcher and deliver his ashes to the sea as they drive towards the fulfillment of their mission their errand becomes an extraordinary journey into their collective and individual pasts braiding these men s voices and that of jack s widow into a choir of sorrow and resentment passion and regret swift creates a testament to a changing england and to enduring mortality swift has involved us in real lived lives quietly but with conviction he seeks to affirm the values of decency loyalty love new york review of books a beautiful book a novel that speaks profoundly of human need and tenderness even the most cynical will be warmed by it san francisco chronicle

Wish You Were Here 2017-10-19 from the bestselling author of last orders and mothering sunday and reissued for the first time in scribner comes a novel called profound and powerful an unputdownable read by scotland on sunday on an autumn day in 2006 on the isle of wight jack luxton former devon farmer now proprietor of a seaside caravan park receives the news that his brother tom not seen for years has been killed in iraq for jack and his wife ellie this will have a potentially catastrophic impact and compel jack to make a

crucial journey to receive his brother's remains but also to return to the land of his past and confront his most secret troubling memories praise for *Mothering Sunday* bathed in light and even when tragedy strikes it blazes irresistibly swift's small fiction feels like a masterpiece guardian alive with sensuousness and sensuality wonderfully accomplished it is an achievement *Sunday Times* from start to finish swift's is a novel of stylish brilliance and quiet narrative verve the archly modulated precise prose a hybrid of Henry Green and Kazuo Ishiguro is a glory to read now 66 swift is a writer at the very top of his game evening standard *Mothering Sunday* is a powerful philosophical and exquisitely observed novel about the lives we lead and the parallel lives the parallel stories we can never know it may just be swift's best novel yet observer

Reading Graham Swift 2019-11-22 this collection of essays on Graham Swift's fiction brings together the perspectives of renowned Swift scholars from around the world authors look at the Swift's oeuvre from different interpretative angles combining a variety of critical and theoretical approaches this book covers all of Swift's fiction including his novels and short stories special emphasis however is on his most recent books by approaching Swift's work from a number of perspectives the volume offers a synthetic overview of his literary output in particular it searches for thematic and formal continuities between his early and more recent fiction and attempts to emphasize its new developments and interests

Mothering Sunday 2016-02-25 longlisted for the Walter Scott Prize from the Booker winning author of *Last Orders* and *Waterland* comes a long-awaited new novel *Mothering*

sunday is bathed in light and even when tragedy strikes it blazes irresistibly swift's small fiction feels like a masterpiece the guardian it is march 30th 1924 it is mothering sunday how will jane fairchild orphan and housemaid occupy her time when she has no mother to visit how shaped by the events of this never to be forgotten day will her future unfold beginning with an intimate assignation and opening to embrace decades mothering sunday has at its heart both the story of a life and the life that stories can magically contain constantly surprising joyously sensual and deeply moving it is graham swift at his thrilling best praise for mothering sunday mothering sunday is a powerful philosophical and exquisitely observed novel about the lives we lead and the parallel lives the parallel stories we can never know it may just be swift's best novel yet the observer dazzling a vanished world is resurrected with superb immediacy wonderfully accomplished sunday times stunning it is about the most perfect novel you could wish to read the guardian from start to finish swift's is a novel of stylish brilliance and quiet narrative verve swift is a writer at the very top of his game evening standard exquisite mothering sunday shows love lust and ordinary decency straining against the bars of an unjust english caste system kazuo ishiguro mastery and resonance it's one of the novel's great strengths to be able to shift with such agility between focus scene and lifetime recollection the languid blissful minutes of march 30 1924 seem to contain all the succeeding decades times literary supplement a dazzling read sexy stylish subversive herald scotland a jewel of a book a subtle erotically charged novella suspended between past and future hermione lee a work of gold from the subtle pen

of the great graham swift le monde with this novel he captures what it means to be alive der spiegel an exquisite novella of love and loss a short yet powerful and intricately layered work every sentence counting and not a word out of place the australian

Making An Elephant 2018-02-22 from the bestselling author of last orders and mothering sunday and reissued for the first time in scribner a brilliant collection of essays as well as brand new material that will delight and intrigue readers in making an elephant graham swift brings together a richly varied selection of essays portraits poetry and reflections on his life in writing full of insights into his passions and motivations and wise about the friends family and other writers who have mattered to him over the years this is a revealing and intimate collection kazuo ishiguro advises on how to choose a guitar salman rushdie arrives for christmas under guard and ted hughes shares the secrets of a devon river there are private moments too with long dead writers as well as musings on history and memory that readers of swift s novels will recognize and love praise for mothering sunday bathed in light and even when tragedy strikes it blazes irresistibly swift s small fiction feels like a masterpiece guardian alive with sensuousness and sensuality wonderfully accomplished it is an achievement sunday times from start to finish swift s is a novel of stylish brilliance and quiet narrative verve the archly modulated precise prose a hybrid of henry green and kazuo ishiguro is a glory to read now 66 swift is a writer at the very top of his game evening standard mothering sunday is a powerful philosophical and exquisitely observed novel about the lives we lead and the parallel lives the parallel stories we can never know it may just be

swift s best novel yet observer

Reading Graham Swift 2019-11-22 the book is the first collection of essays on graham swift s work as a collaborative effort of scholars from several countries it looks at his fiction from different interpretative angles combining a variety of critical and theoretical approaches

Last Orders 2012-01-26 four men once close to jack dodds a london butcher meet to carry out his peculiar last wish to have his ashes scattered into the sea for reasons best known to herself jack s widow amy declines to join them on the surface the tale of a simple if increasingly bizarre day s outing last orders is graham swift s most poignant exploration of the complexity and courage of ordinary lives last orders confirms his reputation as one of the great contemporary chroniclers of landscape and memory observer his finest book to date emotionally charged and technically superb times literary supplement inspired his finest novel yet guardian a triumph sunday times tragic comic and wonderfully compassionate daily mail

Learning to Swim 1986 cambridge literature is a series of literary texts edited for study by students aged 14 18 in english speaking classrooms it will include novels poetry short stories essays travel writing and other non fiction the series will be extensive and open ended and will provide school students with a range of edited texts taken from a wide geographical spread it will feature writing in english from various genres and differing times learning to swim by graham swift is edited by richard hoyes head of sixth form at farnham college

Tomorrow 2018-02-22 from the author of the bestselling *Mothering Sunday* and *Last Orders* and reissued for the first time on the Scribner list this is an intensely moving novel about a night that will change one family beyond recognition on a June night Paula a successful art dealer lies awake Mike her husband of twenty five years asleep beside her in nearby rooms their twin teenage children Nick and Kate sleep too the next day Paula knows will define all their lives as dawn approaches Paula recalls the years before and after her children were born her story is both a celebration of love possessed and a moving acknowledgement of the fear of loss of the fragilities on which even our most inward sense of who we are can rest Graham Swift's apparently most domestic book is that rare thing in fiction a novel about happiness though a happiness that is not all that it seems an intimate and tender tale of a marriage a family and a home it begins to embrace big themes nature and nurture the illusory and the real praise for *Mothering Sunday* bathed in light and even when tragedy strikes it blazes irresistibly Swift's small fiction feels like a masterpiece *Guardian* alive with sensuousness and sensuality wonderfully accomplished it is an achievement *Sunday Times* from start to finish Swift's is a novel of stylish brilliance and quiet narrative verve the archly modulated precise prose a hybrid of Henry Green and Kazuo Ishiguro is a glory to read now 66 Swift is a writer at the very top of his game evening standard *Mothering Sunday* is a powerful philosophical and exquisitely observed novel about the lives we lead and the parallel lives the parallel stories we can never know it may just be Swift's best novel yet observer

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Here We Are 2021-08-10 one of the best writers at work today author of the internationally acclaimed *Mothering Sunday* brings us another superbly conceived novel that with astonishing economy touches depths and evokes wonders not least because its central theme is magic in the summer of 1959 at the pier theatre in Brighton England a variety show unfurls every night held together by Jack Robinson its master of ceremonies at 28 already a veteran of the stage he introduces the performers with some showmanship of his own and he knows how to send the audience home happy but the true stars of the evening are Pablo and Eve Pablo is really Ronnie a magician who prefers to be called an illusionist Jack's friend from army days Eve is Evie Pablo's delightful delicious deplorable assistant through the summer season their act shifts from mere stock trickery to truly unfathomable wizardry with Jack providing the encouragement they need on stage and the personal entanglement none of them saw coming as the novel explores the essential experiences of their lives apart and together past and present and deep into their old age we understand their enduring inseparability bound together by a mix of truth and deception to which they all contribute *Here We Are* is both hauntingly moving and vividly comic a love story involving more than one love a vision of the world lingering at the edge of change and emerging slowly from the aftermath of war it dazzles with Swift's own ability to conjure in a brief space the complexities mysteries and moments of living magic at the heart of existence itself **Waterland** 2008 in the twenty five years since its first publication *Waterland* has

established itself as one of the classics of the twentieth century this anniversary edition with a new introduction by the author celebrates a novel that is a visionary tale of england s fen country a sinuous meditation on the workings of history and a family story startling in its detail and universal in its reach graham swift has mapped his waterland like a new wessex he appropriates the fens as moby dick did whaling or wuthering heights the moors this is a beautiful serious and intelligent novel admirably ambitious and original observer perfectly controlled superbly written waterland is original compelling and narration of the highest order guardian waterland is a formidably intelligent book animated by an impressive angry pity at what human creatures are capable of doing to one another in the name of love and need the most powerful novel i have read for some time new york review of books

Graham Swift 2010 as a novelist graham swift delights in the possibilities of the human voice imagining his way into the minds and hearts of an extraordinary range of characters in making an elephant the voice is his own as generous in its scope as it is acute in its observations this highly personal book is a singular and open spirited account of a writer s life swift brings together a richly varied selection of essays portraits poetry and interviews full of insights into his passions and motivations and wise about the friends family and other writers who have mattered to him over the years kazuo ishiguro advises on how to choose a guitar salman rushdie arrives for christmas under guard and ted hughes shares the secrets of a devon river there are private moments too with long dead writers as well as musings on history and memory that readers of swift s novels will recognize and love a journey through

place and time making an elephant is a book of encounters between a son and his father between an author and his younger selves between writer and reader and between friends it brims with charm and candour and tells of alertness to experience and a true engagement with words in short with what it means to feel that writing and reading are an essential part of living

Making an Elephant 2009 this book offers a critical reading of the novels of graham swift in light of recent developments in literary theory and criticism it shows how the novels elaborate an ethics of alterity by means of a detailed study of one of swifts most persistent and fascinating yet all too often ignored concerns the traumatic experience of reality swifts texts evoke the cultural pathologies of a nation post war britain and an era modernity through the narratives of individual characters who are struggling to come to terms with a traumatic personal and collective past the author charts the entire trajectory of swifts engagement with the perils pitfalls and possibilities of navigating a post traumatic condition proceeding from an emphasis on denial in his early work through an intense preoccupation with the demands of trauma in the middle period novels including waterland to a liberating insistence on regeneration and renewal in last orders and the light of day by providing a w

Desde aquel día 1993 cambridge literature is a series of literary texts edited for study by students aged 14â 18 in english speaking classrooms it will include novels poetry short stories essays travel writing and other non fiction the series will be extensive and open ended and will provide school students with a range of edited texts taken from a wide

geographical spread it will feature writing in english from various genres and differing times learning to swim by graham swift is edited by richard hoyes head of sixth form at farnham college

Trauma and Ethics in the Novels of Graham Swift 2005 written in clear jargon free prose this introductory text charts the variety of novel writing in english in the second half of the twentieth century an engaging introduction to the english language novel from 1950 2000 exclusive of the us provides students both with strategies for interpretation and with fresh readings of selected seminal texts maps out the most important contexts and concepts for understanding this fiction features readings of ten influential english language novels including margaret atwood s the handmaid s tale kazuo ishiguro s remains of the day and chinua achebe s things fall apart

Learning to Swim and Other Stories 1995 prentis senior clerk in the dead crimes department of police archives is becoming more and more confused alienated from his wife and children and obsessed by his father a wartime hero now the mute inmate of a mental hospital prentis feels increasingly unsettled as his enigmatic boss mr quinn turns his investigation towards him and his father gradually prentis suspects that his father s breakdown and quinn s menacing behaviour are connected and the link is to be found in his father s memoirs shuttlecock excellent profound alan hollinghurst london review of books an astonishing study of forms of guilt laced with a thread of detection and puckering now and then into outrageous humour sunday times a superbly written claustrophobic account of

power that corrupts private and public life and of guilt that becomes obsession daily telegraph swift s central strength as a writer is his integrity story and character are treated with a seriousness and respect that while allowing for the oddity of human behaviour shuttlecock is thoroughly and beautifully odd always honours them times literary supplement serious moving and often very funny indeed observer

Reading the Novel in English 1950 - 2000 2009-02-09 this book sets out on an intellectual journey with each chapter acting as a unique compass to lead the reader through the critical perspectives on resistance waiting to be discovered in 21st century british literature as such the book appeals to general readers including undergraduates researchers professionals and anyone who is interested in cultural studies literary studies the humanities and sociology particularly resistance and discourse studies

Shuttlecock 1986 writers talk includes interviews with kate atkinson pat barker jonathan coe jim crace toby litt graham swift matt thorne david mitchell alanwarner and will self is it a good time to be a writer in the time of the da vinci code it s not necessarily good time to be a literary writer kate atkinson the best novels allow us to rehearse the world ahead of us to play out the battle before we fight it to experience disaster before we encounter it to practice grief before it flattens us narrative is useful it confers advantages on us as a species jim crace why do writers write how do they react to criticism of their work what inspires them and how do go about working does fiction have any political ethical or spiritual significance can we learn more about a book from its author this collection of

interviews with contemporary british novelists offers a fascinating insight into bestselling authors views on fiction today their influences and themes readers and critics why they write and their writing process and provides a snapshot of the reality of living as a writer

Critical Perspectives on Resistance in 21st-Century British Literature 2024-04-03

this collection of essays on selected texts in literature film and the media is driven by a shared theme of contesting the binary thinking in respect of gender and sexuality the three parts of this book contesting norms performing selves and blurring the lines delineate the queer celebration of difference and deviance they pinpoint the limitation of assumed norms and subverting them revel in the fluid and ambiguous self that springs from the contestation of those norms and then repeatedly transgress and as a result obscure the limits that separate the normal from the abnormal the variety of texts included in the collection ranges from a discussion of queer subjects represented in film television and literature to that of the representations of other non normative figures including a madwoman a freak or a prostitute and to gender role contestation and gender bending practicing evidenced in the press theatre film literature and popular culture

Writers Talk 2008-05-01 this book is a unique collection of interviews with award winning writers each writer discusses their process why they write whom they write for where and how often they write recurring themes problems and achievements the interviews are intimate honest informative and often humorous together they offer a fascinating insight into the experience and hard work behind successful writers this engaging collection is sure

to appeal to anyone who loves reading or has ever wanted to be a writer

Virginia Woolf and Graham Swift 2014 this volume examines the various processes at work in expressing silence and excessive speech in contemporary novels in English covering the whole spectrum from effusiveness to muteness even if in the postmodern episteme language is deemed inadequate for speaking the unspeakable contemporary authors still rely on voice as a mode of representation and a performative tool and exploit silence not only as a sign of absence block or withdrawal but also as a token of presence and resistance logorrhoea and reticence are not necessarily antithetical as compulsive verbosity may work as a smokescreen to sidestep the real issues while silences and gaps may reveal more than they hide by submitting their texts to both expansion and retention hypertrophy and aphasia writers persistently test the limits of language and its ability to make sense of individual and collective stories the present volume analyses the complex poetics of silence and speech in fiction from the 1960s to the present with special focus on will self graham swift john fowles kazu oishiguro jenny diskintony lionel shriver michèle roberts margaret atwood jonathan safran foer salman rushdie arundhati roy zadie smith jamaica kincaid ryanah shah and j m coetzee

Ambiguous Selves 2019-11-21 this is a ph d dissertation arguing against the view that postmodernism is marked by the waning of affect this book investigates the fate of sentimentality in postmodernist fiction the investigation focuses on the novels of the British author graham swift tracing in them the emergence of a blending of representations of

sentimentality with a postmodernist aesthetics and a postmodern ethico spiritual imagination a blending resulting in what is designated by the shorthand the sentimentum the expression of the sentimentum is further shown to rely on swift s move toward the fulfillment of an aesthetic of vulnerability which neutralizes the opposition between irony and sentimentality and which also corresponds to an ethics of vulnerability that has found its formulation in the philosophy of emmanuel levinas through close readings of swift s novels from the sweet shop owner to last orders it is shown how both the aesthetics and the ethics of vulnerability are gradually more pronounced and affirmed through each successive installment in swift s oeuvre ultimately though the ambition of the book is to bring attention to an aesthetic and thematic configuration that may be found in a number of postmodernist novels hence the study is concluded by comparative and complementary readings of novels by julian barnes penelope lively and jeanette winterson that illustrate the wider relevance of the concepts of the sentimentum and of aesthetics of vulnerability

The Way We Write 2006-07-30

Voices and Silence in the Contemporary Novel in English 2009-10-02

An Aesthetics of Vulnerability 2003

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