

Style as Argument: Contemporary American Non-Fiction

Anderson, Chris

Note: This is not the actual book cover

Style As Argument Contemporary American Nonfiction

T. V. Reed



Style As Argument Contemporary American Nonfiction:

Style as Argument Chris Anderson, 1987 Taking the position that style has a value in its own right that language forms a major component of the story a nonfiction writer has to tell Anderson analyzes the work of America's foremost practitioners of New Journalism Tom Wolfe Truman Capote Norman Mailer and Joan Didion Anderson does for nonfiction what insightful critics have long been doing for fiction and poetry His approach is rhetorical and his message is that the rhetoric of Wolfe Capote Mailer and Didion is a direct response to the problem of trying to convey to a general audience the sublime inexplicable or private and intuitive experiences that conventional rhetoric cannot evoke The emphasis in this book is on style not genre and the analysis characterizes the distinctive styles of four American writers showing how the richness and complexity of their prose discloses an important argument about the value of language itself Their prose is complex nuanced layered affecting always aware of itself as style This self-consciousness Anderson contends prepares the reader to regard style as argument a tacit but powerful statement about the value of form as form style as style

The Centrality of Style

Mike Duncan, Star Medzerian Vanguri, 2013-04-07 In *The Centrality of Style* editors Mike Duncan and Star Medzerian Vanguri argue that style is a central concern of composition studies even as they demonstrate that some of the most compelling work in the area has emerged from the margins of the field

Refiguring the Map of Sorrow

Mark Allister, 2001-10-29 Recent decades have witnessed an explosion of interest in both autobiography and environmental literature In *Refiguring the Map of Sorrow* Mark Allister brings these two genres together by examining a distinct form of grief narrative in which the writers deal with mourning by standing explicitly both outside and inside the text outside in writing about the natural world inside in making that exposition part of the grieving process Building on Peter Fritzell's thesis in *Nature Writing and America* that the best American nature writing blends Aristotelian natural history and Augustinian confession this work of literary interpretation draws on psychoanalytical narrative theory studies of grieving autobiography theory and ecocriticism for its insights into how nature writing can become an autobiographical healing act Allister examines works by Terry Tempest Williams Sue Hubbell Peter Matthiessen Bill Barich William Least Heat Moon and Gretel Ehrlich in order to demonstrate the difficulty of hearing nature speak and of translating terrain and self into language and form As he focuses on the many ways in which humans connect often deeply and urgently to animals or the land Allister vastly extends our understanding of relational autobiography

Factual Fictions

Leonora Flis, 2010-08-11 *Factual Fictions* Narrative Truth and the Contemporary American Documentary Novel focuses on contemporary American documentary narratives specifically the documentary novel as it re-emerged in the 1960s and later developed into various other forms The book explores the connections between the documentary novel and the concurrent rise of New Journalism as well as a literary journalism in the United States situating the two genres in the cultural context of the tumultuous 1960s and an emerging postmodern ethos Flis makes a comprehensive analysis of texts by Truman Capote Norman Mailer John Berendt and Don

DeLillo while tackling discussions on various theoretical complexities with assurance and rigor Interested in the precarious divide between fact and fiction the author productively complicates traditional notions of the two poles Furthermore the book examines parallels between contemporary Slovene documentary narratives and their American counterparts Flis s work with its systematic and innovative approach to the subject matter adds an important historical dimension to the developing field of literary journalism studies as well as to the more established area of 20th Century American literature

Personally Speaking Candace Spigelman, 2004-10-07 Responding to contemporary discussion about using personal accounts in academic writing *Personally Speaking* Experience as Evidence in Academic Discourse draws on classical and current rhetorical theory feminist theory and relevant examples from both published writers and first year writing students to illustrate the advantages of blending experiential and academic perspectives Candace Spigelman examines how merging personal and scholarly worldviews produces useful contradictions and contributes to a more a complex understanding in academic writing This rhetorical move allows for greater insights than the reading or writing of experiential or academic modes separately does *Personally Speaking* foregrounds the semi fictitious nature of personal stories and the rhetorical possibilities of evidence as Spigelman provides strategies for writing instructors who want to teach personal academic argument while supplying practical mechanisms for evaluating experiential claims The volume seeks to complicate and intensify disciplinary debates about how compositionists should write for publication and what kinds of writing should be taught to composition students Spigelman not only supplies evidence as to why the personal can count as evidence but also relates how to use it effectively by including student samples that reflect particular features of personal writing Finally she lays the groundwork to move narrative from its current site as confessional writing to the domain of academic discourse

Without Apology Cindy Jenefsky, 2019-03-20 This is the first ever book length analysis of Dworkin s feminist politics and the first critical analysis to examine her controversial political ideas in light of the literary dimensions of her prose Cindy Jenefsky with Ann Russo looks at Dworkin s major nonfiction works including *Woman Hating Pornography* *Men Possessing Women* and *Intercourse*

Fifteen Jugglers, Five Believers T. V. Reed, 2023-09-01 T V Reed urges an affiliation between literary theory and political action and between political action and literary theory What can the new literary theory learn from new social movements and what can social activists learn from poststructuralism new historicism feminist theory and neomarxism In striking interpretations of texts in four different genres James Agee and Walker Evans s *Let Us Now Praise Famous Men* Ralph Ellison s *Invisible Man* Norman Mailer s *Armies of the Night* and the ecofeminist *Women s Pentagon* Actions of the early 1980s Reed shows how reading literary texts for their political strategies and reading political movements as texts can help us overcome certain rhetorical traps that have undermined American efforts to combat racism sexism and economic inequality This title is part of UC Press s *Voices Revived* program which commemorates University of California Press s mission to seek out and cultivate the brightest minds and give them voice reach and impact Drawing on a

backlist dating to 1893 *Voices Revived* makes high quality peer reviewed scholarship accessible once again using print on demand technology This title was originally published in 1992

Literature and the Work of Universality Alice Duhan, Stefan Helgesson, Christina Kullberg, Paul Tenngart, 2024-07-22 In an age of accelerating ecological crises global inequalities and democratic fragility it has become crucial to achieve renewed articulations of human commonality With anchorage in critical theory as well as world literary studies this volume approaches literature and modes of literary thinking as a key resource for such a task Universality is understood here not as an established universalism but as a horizon towards which intellectual inquiry and literary practices orient themselves In the field of world literature there is by now a wide repertoire of epistemological resources through which claims to universality can be both questioned and reconfigured If at one end of the spectrum world literature confronts us with the spectre of homogenisation and the commodification of difference under a regime of global capitalism at another end renewed forms of philological anthropological and ecological attentiveness to the particulars of languages and texts within the crucible of connected histories allow for defamiliarising perspectives both on received historical narratives and aesthetic practices Vernacularity emerges here as a central point of reference for constructing the universal from within the particular the idiomatic and the experiences of social subordination or complicity

Norman Mailer at 100 Robert J. Begiebing, 2022-11-23 Winner of the Robert F Lucid Award for Mailer Studies Norman Mailer at 100 celebrates the author s centenary in 2023 and the seventy fifth anniversary of the publication of his bestselling debut novel *The Naked and the Dead* by illustrating how Mailer remains a provocative presence in American letters Novelist and Mailer scholar Robert J Begiebing lays out how this polymath author s work makes vital contributions to the larger American literary landscape encompassing the debates of the nation s founders the traditions of Western Romanticism and the juggernaut of twentieth century modernism The book includes six critical essays two creative dialogues featuring Walt Whitman and Ernest Hemingway and Begiebing s own interview with Mailer from 1983 Each piece pairs Mailer with a critical interlocutor whose work offers telling revelations about his ideas and art among them Ralph Waldo Emerson Carl Jung Kate Millett and Joan Didion By encouraging a reconsideration of his career from its beginnings to his final books in the early twenty first century Norman Mailer at 100 forges a new path toward appreciating the author s achievements that underscores the extent to which his work can help us confront the challenges of today

Nothing Begins with N Pat Belanoff, Peter Elbow, Sheryl I. Fontaine, 1991 The 16 essays in this book provide a theoretical underpinning for freewriting Sheryl I Fontaine opens the book with a description of the organization purpose and content of students 10 minute unfocused freewriting Pat Belanoff discusses the relationship between skilled and unskilled student writers Richard H Haswell analyzes forms of freewriting Lynn Hammond describes the focused freewriting strategies used in legal writing and in the analysis of poetry Joy Marsella and Thomas L Hilgers suggest ways of teaching freewriting as a heuristic Diana George and Art Young show what teachers learned about the writing abilities of three engineering students

through freewriting journals Anne E Mullin seeks to determine whether freewriting lives up to claims made for it Barbara W Cheshire assesses the efficacy of freewriting James W Pennebaker checks the short and long term effects of freewriting on students emotional lives Ken Macrorie notes that freewriting means being freed to use certain powers Peter Elbow shows how authors use freewriting Robert Whitney tells why I hate to freewrite Karen Ferro considers her own freewriting showing how it leads to a deeper self understanding Chris Anderson discusses the qualities in freewriting that we should maintain in revision Burton Hatlen shows the parallels between writing projective verse and freewriting Sheridan Blau describes the results of experiments with invisible writing

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