CONTINUUM CONTEMPORARIES

DAVID FOSTER WALLACE'S

# Infinite Jest

BY STEPHEN BURN

A READER S GUIDE

**Thomas Vaessens, Yra Dijk** 

**David Foster Wallace's Infinite Jest** Stephen J. Burn, 2012-04-19 Infinite Jest has been hailed as one the great modern American novels and its author David Foster Wallace who committed suicide in 2008 as one of the most influential and innovative authors of the past 20 years Don DeLillo called Infinite Jest a three stage rocket to the future a work equal to the huge babbling spin out sweep of contemporary life while Time Magazine included Infinite Jest on its list of 100 Greatest Novels published between 1923 2006 David Foster Wallace's Infinite Jest A Reader's Guide was the first book to be published on the novel and is a key reference for those who wish to explore further Infinite Jest has become an exemplar for difficulty in contemporary Fiction its 1 079 pages full of verbal invention oblique narration and a scattered nonlinear chronology In this comprehensively revised second edition Burn maps Wallace's influence on contemporary American fiction outlines Wallace's poetics and provides a full length study of the novel drawing out the most important themes and ideas before surveying Wallace's post Infinite Jest output including The Pale King David Foster Wallace's Infinite Jest Stephen J. Burn, 2012-04-19 Infinite Jest has been hailed as one the great modern American novels and its author David Foster Wallace who committed suicide in 2008 as one of the most influential and innovative authors of the past 20 years Don DeLillo called Infinite Jest a three stage rocket to the future a work equal to the huge babbling spin out sweep of contemporary life while Time Magazine included Infinite Jest on its list of 100 Greatest Novels published between 1923 2006 David Foster Wallace's Infinite Jest A Reader's Guide was the first book to be published on the novel and is a key reference for those who wish to explore further Infinite Jest has become an exemplar for difficulty in contemporary Fiction its 1 079 pages full of verbal invention oblique narration and a scattered nonlinear chronology In this comprehensively revised second edition Burn maps Wallace's influence on contemporary American fiction outlines Wallace's poetics and provides a full length study of the novel drawing out the most important themes and ideas before surveying Wallace's post Infinite Jest output including The Pale The Unspeakable Failures of David Foster Wallace Clare Hayes-Brady, 2017-08-24 A critical overview of the writing King of David Foster Wallace taking his persistent interests in philosophy language and plurality as points of departure

Contemporary Fictions of Attention Alice Bennett, 2018-08-09 With the supposed shortening of our attention spans what future is there for fiction in the age of the internet Contemporary Fictions of Attention rejects this discourse of distraction crisis which suggests that the future of reading is in peril and instead finds that contemporary writers construct fictions of attention that find some value in states or moments of inattention Through discussion of work by a diverse selection of writers including Joshua Cohen Ben Lerner Tom McCarthy Ali Smith Zadie Smith and David Foster Wallace this book identifies how fiction prompts readers to become peripherally aware of their own attention Contemporary Fictions of Attention locates a common interest in attention within 21st century fiction and connects this interest to a series of debates surrounding ethics temporality the everyday boredom work and self discipline in contemporary culture **David Foster** 

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describe it What makes this decidedly unorthodox literature realistic And if it is then what does realism mean anymore Examining literature by dozens of writers and over a century of theory and criticism about realism The Moral Worlds of Contemporary Realism sorts through the current critical confusion to illustrate how our ideas about what is real and how best to depict it have changed dramatically especially in recent years Along the way Mary K Holland guides the reader on a lively tour through the landscape of contemporary literary studies taking in metafiction ideology posthumanism postmodernism and poststructuralism with forays into quantum mechanics new materialism and Buddhism as well to give us entirely new ways of viewing how humans use language to make sense of and to make the world Reconsidering the Postmodern Thomas Vaessens, Yra Dijk, 2025-10-01 From Michel Houellebecq to Zadie Smith from Javier Mar as to Arnon Grunberg this timely study takes its reader on a tour of European literature and the critical discussion around it Despite recent declarations of postmodernism s demise contemporary literature turns out to be entangled in a discussion with postmodernism It is time to critically evaluate this legacy Twelve specialists in the national literatures sketch the outlines of the debate Turning to literature itself they find it to be searching for new values after the relativizing force of postmodernism

David Foster Wallace in Context Clare Hayes-Brady,2022-12-01 David Foster Wallace is regarded as one of the most important American writers of the twentieth and twenty first centuries This book introduces readers to the literary philosophical and political contexts of Wallace s work An accessible and useable resource this volume conceptualizes his work within long standing critical traditions and with a new awareness of his importance for American literary studies It shows the range of issues and contexts that inform the work and reading of David Foster Wallace connecting his writing to diverse ideas periods and themes Essays cover topics on gender sex violence race philosophy poetry and geography among many others guiding new and long standing readers in understanding the work and influence of this important writer

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