



Succeeding Postmodernism: Language and Humanism in Contemporary American Literature

By Mary K. Holland

Download now

Read Online 

Succeeding Postmodernism: Language and Humanism in Contemporary American Literature By Mary K. Holland

While critics collect around the question of what comes "after postmodernism," this book asks something different about recent American fiction: what if we are seeing not the end of postmodernism but its belated success? *Succeeding Postmodernism* examines how novels by DeLillo, Wallace, Danielewski, Foer and others conceptualize threats to individuals and communities posed by a poststructural culture of mediation and simulation, and possible ways of resisting the disaffected solipsism bred by that culture. Ultimately it finds that twenty-first century American fiction sets aside the postmodern problem of how language does or does not mean in order to raise the reassuringly retro question of what it can and does mean: it finds that novels today offer language as solution to the problem of language. Thus it suggests a new way of reading "antihumanist" late postmodern fiction, and a framework for understanding postmodern and twenty-first century fiction as participating in a long and newly enlivened tradition of humanism and realism in literature.

 [Download Succeeding Postmodernism: Language and Humanism in ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Succeeding Postmodernism: Language and Humanism ...pdf](#)

Succeeding Postmodernism: Language and Humanism in Contemporary American Literature

By Mary K. Holland

Succeeding Postmodernism: Language and Humanism in Contemporary American Literature By
Mary K. Holland

While critics collect around the question of what comes "after postmodernism," this book asks something different about recent American fiction: what if we are seeing not the end of postmodernism but its belated success? *Succeeding Postmodernism* examines how novels by DeLillo, Wallace, Danielewski, Foer and others conceptualize threats to individuals and communities posed by a poststructural culture of mediation and simulation, and possible ways of resisting the disaffected solipsism bred by that culture. Ultimately it finds that twenty-first century American fiction sets aside the postmodern problem of how language does or does not mean in order to raise the reassuringly retro question of what it can and does mean: it finds that novels today offer language as solution to the problem of language. Thus it suggests a new way of reading "antihumanist" late postmodern fiction, and a framework for understanding postmodern and twenty-first century fiction as participating in a long and newly enlivened tradition of humanism and realism in literature.

Succeeding Postmodernism: Language and Humanism in Contemporary American Literature By
Mary K. Holland Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #2835821 in Books
- Published on: 2014-10-23
- Released on: 2014-10-23
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 228.60" h x .49" w x 6.00" l, .0 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 232 pages

 [Download Succeeding Postmodernism: Language and Humanism in ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Succeeding Postmodernism: Language and Humanism ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online *Succeeding Postmodernism: Language and Humanism in Contemporary American Literature* By Mary K. Holland

Editorial Review

Review

Holland gives readers a new map of the contemporary novel that registers the landscape with more precision than any earlier scholar-cartographer has managed. Her sequence of finely-grained readings synthesizes the insights of poststructuralism with the urgent impulse toward real meaning and value in twenty-first century fiction, to describe a mobius-strip realism that emerges out of the matter of fiction and that characterizes fiction that matters. -- Stephen J. Burn, Northern Michigan University, USA

Mary Holland's *Succeeding Postmodernism* offers a marvelously astute and insightful argument about what she calls a 'new humanism,' a re-assertion of values that matter and inform the struggles articulated in contemporary fictions. Far from naivete, this is a kind of humanism that takes full account of the anti-humanist tendencies of poststructuralism and yet resolutely insists on the potentiality of language to intervene in meaningful ways in our lives. For scholars of the contemporary period, this is an important text not only to read but also to consider assigning for classes. -- N. Katherine Hayles, Professor of Literature and Director of Graduate Studies, Duke University, USA

Mary Holland was one of the first critics to see that, with the appearance of figures like David Foster Wallace, something fundamental was changing in the landscape of contemporary fiction. And now, with the publication of *Succeeding Postmodernism*, we at last see her argument presented in full. Rather than the simple collapse of the postmodernist enterprise in favor of a new realist naivete, the swerve in literary history depicted here is one of repurposing and reclamation, with all of the famed sophistication of the postmodern now dedicated toward envisioning new forms of human connection. Holland's book will be of interest to anyone looking for a penetrating account of the state-and stakes-of artistically ambitious fiction in our time. -- Mark McGurl, Professor of English, Stanford University, USA

For the last decade or so, we've heard a great deal of inconclusive talk about the 'post-postmodern era' and the 'post-ironic' novel. Mary Holland's bracing, densely argued book cuts through all the confusion and offers up a rigorous, firmly grounded overview of this emerging sensibility. Drawing upon recent reevaluations of humanism by Kwame Appiah and Edward Said, Holland discloses unexpected opportunities for empathy and ethical engagement in both poststructuralism and recent fiction by Don DeLillo, David Foster Wallace, Mark Danielewski, A. M. Homes, Jonathan Safran Foer, and Cormac McCarthy. Much like the novels it analyses, *Succeeding Postmodernism* is both technically dazzling and unapologetically humane. -- Marshall Boswell, Professor and Chair of English, Rhodes College, USA, and author of *Understanding David Foster Wallace*

In this sense, *Succeeding Postmodernism* is at once a very useful contribution to the field of literary studies...I would recommend it to students of literature. -- Timotheus Vermeulen

American Book Review

Holland's *Succeeding Postmodernism: Language and Humanism in Contemporary American Literature* sees postmodernism as not repudiated but rather redirected so that its strategies and techniques can serve a renewed purpose...Holland's study shows how language can rebuild a sense of hope from the fragments that survive postmodernism's deconstruction. -- Jerome Klinkowitz, University of Northern Iowa

American Literary Scholarship

About the Author

Mary K. Holland is Assistant Professor of contemporary literature at The State University of New York, New Paltz, USA. Her work on irony and narcissism, poststructural realism, and mothering and media in fiction and film has appeared in *Critique*, *The Journal of Popular Culture*, and *A Companion to David Foster Wallace Studies*.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Billy Stinson:

Inside other case, little persons like to read book Succeeding Postmodernism: Language and Humanism in Contemporary American Literature. You can choose the best book if you want reading a book. So long as we know about how is important any book Succeeding Postmodernism: Language and Humanism in Contemporary American Literature. You can add information and of course you can around the world by just a book. Absolutely right, because from book you can know everything! From your country until eventually foreign or abroad you can be known. About simple matter until wonderful thing it is possible to know that. In this era, you can open a book or perhaps searching by internet product. It is called e-book. You can utilize it when you feel bored stiff to go to the library. Let's examine.

Timothy Duchene:

Now a day folks who Living in the era wherever everything reachable by talk with the internet and the resources within it can be true or not require people to be aware of each data they get. How people have to be smart in receiving any information nowadays? Of course the correct answer is reading a book. Reading a book can help individuals out of this uncertainty Information mainly this Succeeding Postmodernism: Language and Humanism in Contemporary American Literature book because book offers you rich facts and knowledge. Of course the data in this book hundred per cent guarantees there is no doubt in it you probably know this.

Jack Caldwell:

The guide untitled Succeeding Postmodernism: Language and Humanism in Contemporary American Literature is the book that recommended to you to read. You can see the quality of the publication content that will be shown to anyone. The language that publisher use to explained their ideas are easily to understand. The article author was did a lot of investigation when write the book, and so the information that they share to you is absolutely accurate. You also can get the e-book of Succeeding Postmodernism: Language and Humanism in Contemporary American Literature from the publisher to make you much more enjoy free time.

Steven Delorme:

Would you one of the book lovers? If yes, do you ever feeling doubt while you are in the book store? Attempt to pick one book that you just dont know the inside because don't evaluate book by its handle may doesn't work the following is difficult job because you are scared that the inside maybe not because fantastic as in the outside seem likes. Maybe you answer could be Succeeding Postmodernism: Language and Humanism in Contemporary American Literature why because the amazing cover that make you consider with regards to the content will not disappoint you. The inside or content is actually fantastic as the outside or maybe cover. Your reading 6th sense will directly show you to pick up this book.

Download and Read Online Succeeding Postmodernism: Language and Humanism in Contemporary American Literature By Mary K. Holland #0C1QZE69YGH

Read Succeeding Postmodernism: Language and Humanism in Contemporary American Literature By Mary K. Holland for online ebook

Succeeding Postmodernism: Language and Humanism in Contemporary American Literature By Mary K. Holland Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Succeeding Postmodernism: Language and Humanism in Contemporary American Literature By Mary K. Holland books to read online.

Online Succeeding Postmodernism: Language and Humanism in Contemporary American Literature By Mary K. Holland ebook PDF download

Succeeding Postmodernism: Language and Humanism in Contemporary American Literature By Mary K. Holland Doc

Succeeding Postmodernism: Language and Humanism in Contemporary American Literature By Mary K. Holland Mobipocket

Succeeding Postmodernism: Language and Humanism in Contemporary American Literature By Mary K. Holland EPub