

infinte jest pdf

infinte jest pdf is a phrase often searched by readers and literary enthusiasts interested in accessing David Foster Wallace's acclaimed novel in a digital format. *Infinite Jest*, a complex and sprawling work, has garnered significant attention for its intricate narrative style, thematic depth, and cultural impact. Many seek a convenient and portable version of the book, such as a PDF, to engage with its content more flexibly. This article explores the availability, legal considerations, and the literary significance of *Infinite Jest* in PDF form. It also addresses common questions about accessing, reading, and understanding the novel through digital mediums. The discussion includes insights into the novel's unique structure, its critical reception, and practical advice for readers interested in exploring the text digitally. The following sections provide a comprehensive overview of the topic.

- Understanding Infinite Jest and Its Significance
- Availability of Infinite Jest PDF
- Legal Considerations for Infinite Jest PDF
- Reading Infinite Jest in Digital Formats
- Features and Challenges of Infinite Jest PDF

Understanding Infinite Jest and Its Significance

Infinite Jest is a novel written by David Foster Wallace, first published in 1996. Known for its length, complexity, and experimental narrative style, the book explores themes such as addiction, entertainment, family dynamics, and the search for meaning. It is considered a landmark work in contemporary American literature, blending dark humor, philosophical inquiry, and cultural critique. The novel's fragmented structure and extensive use of endnotes contribute to its reputation as a challenging but rewarding read.

Literary Style and Structure

The novel is characterized by its nonlinear timeline, multiple points of view, and extensive footnotes that provide additional context or subplots. This structure demands active engagement from readers and has sparked much analysis and discussion among critics and scholars. The complexity of *Infinite Jest* makes it a subject of interest not only for casual readers but also for academic study.

Thematic Depth

Infinite Jest delves into various themes, including the nature of addiction, the impact of technology and

media on society, and the pursuit of happiness. Its exploration of these topics is interwoven with detailed character development and intricate plotlines, making the novel a multifaceted work that resonates on many levels.

Availability of Infinite Jest PDF

The availability of Infinite Jest in PDF format is a topic of significant interest among readers who prefer digital copies. While physical copies of the book are widely available through bookstores and libraries, obtaining an official PDF version involves specific considerations. Publishers typically release digital versions in formats compatible with e-readers and tablets, such as EPUB or MOBI. A PDF version may be offered officially by the publisher or authorized distributors, but unauthorized copies are often circulated online.

Official Digital Versions

Publishers sometimes provide Infinite Jest in digital formats for purchase or lending through legitimate platforms. These versions ensure quality formatting and respect copyright laws. Potential buyers should verify the source to ensure they receive a properly formatted and legal copy.

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Legal Considerations for Infinite Jest PDF

Copyright law plays a crucial role in the distribution and access to Infinite Jest PDF files. The novel is protected by copyright, and unauthorized distribution or downloading of the text in PDF form violates these protections. Readers and collectors should be aware of the legal implications when seeking digital copies of the book.

Copyright Protection

David Foster Wallace's estate and the publishing house hold the rights to Infinite Jest, controlling its distribution and reproduction. Any PDF copies not authorized by these entities are considered illegal and subject to removal or legal action.

Ethical and Practical Implications

Beyond legal concerns, using authorized copies supports the author's estate and publishers, ensuring the continued availability of high-quality editions. Ethical reading practices promote respect for intellectual property and encourage the production of future literary works.

Reading Infinite Jest in Digital Formats

Reading Infinite Jest in digital formats, including PDF, offers convenience and accessibility for modern readers. Digital reading allows for adjustable font sizes, search functionality, and portability across devices. However, the novel's unique formatting and extensive footnotes pose challenges for digital presentation.

Advantages of Digital Reading

- Portability: Carry the entire novel on a single device.
- Searchability: Quickly find references and passages.
- Customization: Adjust font size, background color, and layout.
- Annotation: Digital highlighting and note-taking features enhance study and comprehension.

Challenges with Infinite Jest PDF

The complex footnotes and formatting of Infinite Jest demand careful digital adaptation. PDFs may not always support interactive features, and static layouts can hinder the reading flow. Some digital editions optimize these aspects better than others, making format choice important for reader experience.

Features and Challenges of Infinite Jest PDF

The Infinite Jest PDF format contains specific features and challenges that affect how readers engage with the text. Understanding these elements can help users optimize their reading experience and appreciate the novel's depth.

Formatting and Navigation

PDFs maintain the original layout and pagination of the print edition, which can be beneficial for referencing specific sections. However, navigation through the many endnotes and cross-references can be cumbersome without interactive links. Readers may need to manually scroll or jump between pages.

File Size and Compatibility

The length and detailed formatting of Infinite Jest result in PDF files that can be large in size. This may impact loading times and storage space on devices. Compatibility across various PDF readers also varies, potentially affecting display quality and usability.

Recommendations for Optimal Use

1. Use a reliable PDF reader with bookmarking and annotation capabilities.
2. Consider devices with larger screens for easier reading.
3. Combine digital reading with physical copies for cross-referencing complex sections.
4. Verify the source of the PDF to ensure legality and quality.

Frequently Asked Questions

Where can I legally download the Infinite Jest PDF?

Infinite Jest by David Foster Wallace is a copyrighted work, so there are no legal free PDFs available for download. To read it, consider purchasing a copy from bookstores or authorized online retailers.

Is there a free Infinite Jest PDF available online?

There may be unauthorized copies of Infinite Jest PDF circulating online, but downloading or sharing these is illegal and violates copyright laws.

What is Infinite Jest about?

Infinite Jest is a complex and sprawling novel by David Foster Wallace that explores themes of addiction, entertainment, and the search for meaning in a fragmented modern world.

How many pages is Infinite Jest in PDF format?

The page count of Infinite Jest can vary depending on the PDF edition and formatting, but the printed version is approximately 1,100 pages long.

Are there any summaries of Infinite Jest available as PDFs?

Yes, many websites and educational resources offer summaries and study guides for Infinite Jest in PDF format, which can be a helpful supplement to reading the full novel.

Can I find Infinite Jest audiobook PDFs?

Audiobooks are audio files and do not come in PDF format. However, some audiobook services provide transcripts or text summaries in PDF form separately.

What are some good resources to understand Infinite Jest better?

Resources such as academic articles, discussion forums, annotated editions, and study guides can help readers understand Infinite Jest better. Some of these may be available in PDF format online.

Is Infinite Jest available as an eBook PDF?

Infinite Jest is available as an eBook through official retailers, but typically in formats like EPUB or MOBI rather than PDF. Check authorized sellers for legitimate digital versions.

Why is Infinite Jest so popular despite its length and complexity?

Infinite Jest is acclaimed for its innovative narrative style, deep philosophical themes, and rich character development, making it a favorite among readers who enjoy challenging literature.

Additional Resources

1. *Infinite Jest* by David Foster Wallace

This novel is a sprawling, complex work of fiction that explores themes of addiction, entertainment, and the pursuit of happiness. Set in an alternate reality, it delves into the lives of a tennis academy and a drug rehabilitation center, weaving together multiple storylines. Known for its intricate narrative and extensive footnotes, it challenges readers with its depth and detail.

2. *The Pale King* by David Foster Wallace

An unfinished novel by Wallace, *The Pale King* focuses on the lives of IRS agents and explores themes of boredom, attention, and the meaning of work. It reflects Wallace's trademark style of deep philosophical inquiry combined with sharp, often humorous prose. The book offers insight into the mundane aspects of life and the search for significance.

3. *Consider the Lobster and Other Essays* by David Foster Wallace

A collection of essays showcasing Wallace's keen observation and unique voice, this book covers topics ranging from politics and literature to culture and ethics. His writing is insightful and often deeply personal, challenging readers to reconsider everyday experiences and societal norms.

4. *Gravity's Rainbow* by Thomas Pynchon

This dense and complex novel shares thematic similarities with *Infinite Jest*, including postmodern narrative techniques and explorations of paranoia, technology, and war. Set during World War II, it blends

historical fiction with surreal elements, offering a challenging yet rewarding reading experience.

5. *House of Leaves* by Mark Z. Danielewski

A cult favorite in experimental literature, this novel uses unconventional typography and narrative layering to tell a story about a mysterious house with shifting dimensions. Like *Infinite Jest*, it experiments with form and structure, inviting readers to engage deeply with the text.

6. *White Noise* by Don DeLillo

This novel explores the pervasive influence of media and technology in modern life through a darkly comic lens. Its themes of death, consumerism, and the search for meaning resonate with the concerns found in *Infinite Jest*, making it a compelling companion read.

7. *Underworld* by Don DeLillo

A sweeping narrative that captures the American experience in the latter half of the 20th century, *Underworld* weaves together various characters and historical events. Its intricate storytelling and thematic richness parallel the complexity found in *Infinite Jest*.

8. *The Crying of Lot 49* by Thomas Pynchon

This shorter work by Pynchon delves into conspiracy and communication, exploring how information shapes reality. Its playful yet enigmatic style and exploration of postmodern themes make it a relevant read for fans of *Infinite Jest*.

9. *Less Than Zero* by Bret Easton Ellis

A stark portrayal of disaffected youth in 1980s Los Angeles, this novel examines themes of nihilism, addiction, and alienation. Its minimalist style contrasts with Wallace's dense prose but similarly addresses the emptiness underlying contemporary life.

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Infinite Jest PDF: Your Ultimate Guide to Accessing and Understanding David Foster Wallace's Masterpiece

Are you captivated by the enigma of David Foster Wallace's *Infinite Jest*, but frustrated by the challenges of acquiring and navigating its sprawling narrative? Do you find yourself overwhelmed by

the sheer volume of the text, the complex characters, and the intricate interwoven plots? Do you crave a deeper understanding of its philosophical themes and stylistic innovations? This guide is your key to unlocking the mysteries of Infinite Jest.

This ebook, "Decoding Infinite Jest: A Comprehensive Guide to Wallace's Masterpiece," provides a clear and accessible pathway through this monumental work of literature.

Contents:

Introduction: Navigating the Labyrinth: An Overview of Infinite Jest.

Chapter 1: Acquiring Infinite Jest Legally and Ethically: Exploring Options and Avoiding Infringement.

Chapter 2: Mastering the Narrative Structure: Unraveling the Intertwined Plots and Timelines.

Chapter 3: Understanding the Key Characters: Delving into the Psychology and Motivations of the Cast.

Chapter 4: Decoding the Themes: Exploring Addiction, Entertainment, Family, and Identity.

Chapter 5: Analyzing Wallace's Style: Examining his Unique Prose, Footnotes, and Narrative Techniques.

Chapter 6: Engaging with Critical Interpretations: Exploring Different Perspectives on the Novel.

Conclusion: Leaving the Entertainment: Reflections on Infinite Jest's Lasting Impact.

Decoding Infinite Jest: A Comprehensive Guide to Wallace's Masterpiece

Introduction: Navigating the Labyrinth: An Overview of Infinite Jest

David Foster Wallace's *Infinite Jest* is a behemoth of contemporary literature, notorious for its length, complexity, and demanding prose. Its very title hints at the overwhelming nature of the entertainment industry and the insidious allure of distraction within modern society. This guide serves as your compass, helping you navigate this sprawling narrative and unlock the depth and richness within. We will address the challenges readers often face—acquiring the book legally, deciphering its intricate structure, understanding its multifaceted characters, and grasping its profound themes—all while appreciating Wallace's unique stylistic choices. This introduction lays the groundwork for our journey into the heart of this literary masterpiece. By understanding the challenges ahead, we can approach *Infinite Jest* with confidence and unlock its many rewards.

Chapter 1: Acquiring Infinite Jest Legally and Ethically: Exploring Options and Avoiding Infringement.

The first hurdle for many aspiring readers of *Infinite Jest* is obtaining a legal copy. The novel's sheer size can make it an expensive purchase, and the temptation to resort to illegal downloads is understandable. However, accessing the book through unofficial channels violates copyright laws and deprives the author's estate of deserved royalties. This chapter explores ethical and legal avenues for acquiring *Infinite Jest*:

Purchasing a Physical Copy: This is the most straightforward approach, offering the tactile experience of reading a physical book. Used copies are often available at discounted prices online or in secondhand bookstores.

Purchasing an E-book: Several online retailers, such as Amazon and Barnes & Noble, offer digital versions of *Infinite Jest*. This provides portability and convenience.

Borrowing from a Library: Public libraries frequently stock *Infinite Jest*, offering a cost-effective way to access the book.

Utilizing Interlibrary Loan: If your local library doesn't have a copy, they may be able to borrow it from another library through an interlibrary loan system.

The Dangers of Illegal Downloads: We will discuss the legal ramifications of downloading pirated copies of *Infinite Jest*, including potential fines and legal action. We will also emphasize the importance of supporting authors and publishers by purchasing legitimate copies.

Chapter 2: Mastering the Narrative Structure: Unraveling the Intertwined Plots and Timelines

Infinite Jest is famously structured in a non-linear fashion, utilizing interwoven storylines and shifting timelines. This chapter will provide strategies for navigating this complex structure:

Creating a Timeline: We will guide you in constructing a timeline to map the various plotlines and their chronological relationships.

Identifying Key Events and Relationships: We will highlight crucial plot points and character interactions, clarifying their significance within the overall narrative.

Understanding the Use of Footnotes: Wallace's extensive use of footnotes is integral to the narrative. This section will explain how to effectively engage with them without losing the flow of the main text.

Interpreting Narrative Gaps and Ambiguities: We will explore the deliberate ambiguities within the narrative and discuss how to approach them without becoming frustrated.

Recognizing Recurring Motifs and Symbols: We will highlight recurring themes and images, such as addiction, entertainment, and the passage of time.

Chapter 3: Understanding the Key Characters: Delving into the Psychology and Motivations of the Cast

Infinite Jest boasts a vast cast of characters, each with complex motivations and backstories. This

chapter will offer in-depth analyses of several key characters:

Hal Incandenza: We will examine the challenges faced by Hal and his struggles with his brilliance and his family.

Mario Incandenza: We will explore the unique relationship between Mario and other characters, and his role in the novel.

Don Gately: We will delve into Don Gately's past and analyze his struggles with addiction and his search for redemption.

Avril Incandenza: We will examine the complex nature of Avril and her relationship to her sons.

James Incandenza: We will explore the legacy of James and the impact of his entertainment on the lives of others.

Chapter 4: Decoding the Themes: Exploring Addiction, Entertainment, Family, and Identity

Infinite Jest is not simply a story; it is a profound exploration of several significant themes:

Addiction: We will examine how addiction manifests itself in various forms throughout the novel, and its impact on individuals and society.

Entertainment: We will analyze the role of entertainment in shaping our lives and the potential dangers of excessive consumption.

Family: We will dissect the dynamics of family relationships within the novel, highlighting both the strengths and the challenges they present.

Identity: We will explore the struggles of characters to define their identities in the face of societal pressures and personal turmoil.

The Nature of Time: Wallace employs non-linear narrative techniques to explore the subjective and fluid nature of time itself.

Chapter 5: Analyzing Wallace's Style: Examining his Unique Prose, Footnotes, and Narrative Techniques

Wallace's distinctive writing style is a defining feature of Infinite Jest:

Prose Style: We will analyze the complexity, density, and humor embedded in his writing.

Extensive Footnotes: We will provide strategies for engaging with the extensive footnotes in a way that enhances comprehension without causing frustration.

Narrative Structure: We will re-examine the unconventional structure of the novel, discussing its impact on the reading experience.

Use of Humor and Irony: We will analyze Wallace's use of satire, irony, and humor to convey complex ideas and social commentary.

Influence of Postmodernism: We will place Wallace's work within the context of postmodern

literature, highlighting its key characteristics.

Chapter 6: Engaging with Critical Interpretations: Exploring Different Perspectives on the Novel

Infinite Jest has been subject to numerous critical interpretations since its publication. This chapter will explore some key perspectives:

Psychoanalytic Interpretations: We will examine how Freudian and Lacanian theories can be applied to the novel.

Sociological Interpretations: We will examine the sociological critiques of modern society present in the text.

Philosophical Interpretations: We will engage with the philosophical concepts explored in the text, including addiction, identity, and the nature of reality.

Literary Critical Approaches: We will examine how various literary schools of thought (e.g., New Criticism, Poststructuralism) have interpreted the novel.

Conclusion: Leaving the Entertainment: Reflections on Infinite Jest's Lasting Impact

This concluding chapter will synthesize the key themes and insights explored throughout the ebook. We will reflect on the enduring power of Infinite Jest, its continued relevance in contemporary society, and its impact on the landscape of contemporary literature.

FAQs

1. Is Infinite Jest really that hard to read? Yes, its length, complex structure, and dense prose make it challenging. But with guidance and patience, it is achievable.
2. How long does it take to read Infinite Jest? It depends on your reading speed and comprehension. Expect to dedicate significant time, possibly months.
3. What is the significance of the Entertainment? The Entertainment is a fictional, highly addictive film that represents the destructive power of unchecked technological advancement and escapism.

4. What are the main themes of the book? Addiction, entertainment, family, identity, and the nature of time are central themes.
5. Are the footnotes essential to understanding the book? Yes, the footnotes are integral to the narrative, containing crucial information and enriching the story.
6. What are some good resources for understanding the book better? This ebook, along with online forums, academic articles, and critical essays, are valuable resources.
7. Is there a movie adaptation of *Infinite Jest*? No, there is no movie adaptation, and the book's complex narrative makes a faithful adaptation challenging.
8. What makes *Infinite Jest* a postmodern novel? Its fragmented narrative, metafictional elements, and rejection of traditional storytelling techniques are characteristic of postmodern literature.
9. Why is *Infinite Jest* considered a significant work of literature? Its exploration of complex themes, innovative writing style, and enduring cultural relevance have cemented its status as a literary masterpiece.

Related Articles:

1. The Enduring Legacy of David Foster Wallace: An exploration of Wallace's impact on contemporary literature and culture.
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3. Character Analysis: Hal Incandenza in *Infinite Jest*: An in-depth study of the central protagonist.
4. Addiction and Escapism in *Infinite Jest*: An exploration of the novel's themes of addiction and the search for meaning.
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College. The speech is reprinted for the first time in book form in *THIS IS WATER*. How does one keep from going through their comfortable, prosperous adult life unconsciously? How do we get ourselves out of the foreground of our thoughts and achieve compassion? The speech captures Wallace's electric intellect as well as his grace in attention to others. After his death, it became a treasured piece of writing reprinted in *The Wall Street Journal* and the *London Times*, commented on endlessly in blogs, and emailed from friend to friend. Writing with his one-of-a-kind blend of causal humor, exacting intellect, and practical philosophy, David Foster Wallace probes the challenges of daily living and offers advice that renews us with every reading.

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infinite jest pdf: *Elegant Complexity* Greg Carlisle, 2007 *Elegant Complexity* is the first critical work to provide detailed and thorough commentary on each of the 192 sections of David Foster Wallace's masterful *Infinite Jest*. No other commentary on *Infinite Jest* recognizes that Wallace clearly divided the book into 28 chapters that are thematically unified. A chronology at the end of the study reorders each section of the novel into a sequential timeline that orients the reader and that could be used to support a chronological reading of the novel. Other helpful reference materials include a thematic outline, more chronologies, a map of one of the novel's settings, lists of characters grouped by association, and an indexed list of references. *Elegant Complexity* orients the reader at the beginning of each section and keeps commentary separate for those readers who only want orientation. The researcher looking for specific characters or themes is provided a key at the beginning of each commentary. Carlisle explains the novel's complex plot threads (and discrepancies) with expert insight and clear commentary. The book is 99% spoiler-free for first-time readers of *Infinite Jest*.--Publisher's website.

infinite jest pdf: *Understanding David Foster Wallace* Marshall Boswell, 2020-09-30 Since its publication in 2003, *Understanding David Foster Wallace* has served as an accessible introduction to the rich array of themes and formal innovations that have made Wallace's fiction so popular and influential. A seminal text in the burgeoning field of David Foster Wallace studies, the original edition of *Understanding David Foster Wallace* was nevertheless incomplete as it addressed only his first four works of fiction—namely the novels *The Broom of the System* and *Infinite Jest* and the story collections *Girl with Curious Hair* and *Brief Interviews with Hideous Men*. This revised edition adds two new chapters covering his final story collection, *Oblivion*, and his posthumous novel, *The Pale King*. Tracing Wallace's relationship to modernism and postmodernism, this volume provides close readings of all his major works of fiction. Although critics sometimes label Wallace a postmodern writer, Boswell argues that he should be regarded as the nervous leader of some still-unnamed (and perhaps unnamable) third wave of modernism. In charting a new direction for literary practice, Wallace does not seek to overturn postmodernism, nor does he call for a return to modernism. Rather his work moves resolutely forward while hoisting the baggage of modernism and postmodernism heavily, but respectfully, on its back. Like the books that serve as its primary

subject, Boswell's study directly confronts such arcane issues as postmodernism, information theory, semiotics, the philosophy of Ludwig Wittgenstein, and poststructuralism, yet it does so in a way that is comprehensible to a wide and general readership—the very same readership that has enthusiastically embraced Wallace's challenging yet entertaining and redemptive fiction.

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infinte jest pdf: *Oblivion* David Foster Wallace, 2004-06-08 In the stories that make up *Oblivion*, David Foster Wallace joins the rawest, most naked humanity with the infinite involutions of self-consciousness -- a combination that is dazzlingly, uniquely his. These are worlds undreamt of by any other mind. Only David Foster Wallace could convey a father's desperate loneliness by way of his son's daydreaming through a teacher's homicidal breakdown (*The Soul Is Not a Smithy*). Or could explore the deepest and most hilarious aspects of creativity by delineating the office politics surrounding a magazine profile of an artist who produces miniature sculptures in an anatomically inconceivable way (*The Suffering Channel*). Or capture the ache of love's breakdown in the painfully polite apologies of a man who believes his wife is hallucinating the sound of his snoring (*Oblivion*). Each of these stories is a complete world, as fully imagined as most entire novels, at once preposterously surreal and painfully immediate.

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thought-provoking and playful short story collection, David Foster Wallace nudges at the boundaries of fiction with inimitable wit and seductive intelligence. Wallace's stories present a world where the bizarre and the banal are interwoven and where hideous men appear in many guises. Among the stories are 'The Depressed Person,' a dazzling and blackly humorous portrayal of a woman's mental state; 'Adult World,' which reveals a woman's agonized consideration of her confusing sexual relationship with her husband; and 'Brief Interviews with Hideous Men,' a dark, hilarious series of imagined interviews with men on the subject of their relations with women. Wallace delights in leftfield observation, mining the absurd, the surprising, and the illuminating from every situation. This collection will enthrall DFW fans, and provides a perfect introduction for new readers.

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succeeds in a characteristically potent blast of journalistic brio that not only captures the lunatic rough-and-tumble of a presidential campaign but also delivers a compelling inquiry into John McCain himself: the senator, the POW, the campaign finance reformer, the candidate, the man.

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personal life of the author of numerous bestselling novels, gain an understanding of David Foster Wallace and how he became the man that he was. Only once did David Foster Wallace give a public talk on his views on life, during a commencement address given in 2005 at Kenyon College. The speech is reprinted for the first time in book form in *This is Water*. How does one keep from going through their comfortable, prosperous adult life unconsciously? How do we get ourselves out of the foreground of our thoughts and achieve compassion? The speech captures Wallace's electric intellect as well as his grace in attention to others. After his death, it became a treasured piece of writing reprinted in *The Wall Street Journal* and the *London Times*, commented on endlessly in blogs, and emailed from friend to friend. Writing with his one-of-a-kind blend of causal humor, exacting intellect, and practical philosophy, David Foster Wallace probes the challenges of daily living and offers advice that renews us with every reading.

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reading *Infinite Jest* makes one better. As such, Plank's work takes steps to defend the ethics of fiction, the vital relation between religion and literature, and why one just might read at all.

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voices eerily began to return another story -- of creature darkness, of an ever-growing abyss behind a closet door, and of that unholy growl which soon enough would tear through their walls and consume all their dreams.

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Foster Wallace: Fiction and Form, David Hering analyses the structures of David Foster Wallace's fiction, from his debut *The Broom of the System* to his final unfinished novel *The Pale King*. Incorporating extensive analysis of Wallace's drafts, notes and letters, and taking account of the rapidly expanding field of Wallace scholarship, this book argues that the form of Wallace's fiction is always inextricably bound up within an ongoing conflict between the monologic and the dialogic, one strongly connected with Wallace's sense of his own authorial presence and identity in the work. Hering suggests that this conflict occurs at the level of both subject and composition, analysing the importance of a number of provocative structural and critical contexts – ghostliness, institutionality, reflection – to the fiction while describing how this argument is also visible within the development of Wallace's manuscripts, comparing early drafts with published material to offer a career-long framework of the construction of Wallace's fiction. The final chapter offers an unprecedentedly detailed analysis of the troubled, decade-long construction of the work that became *The Pale King*.

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