



# Succeeding Postmodernism: Language and Humanism in Contemporary American Literature

By Mary K. Holland

 Download

 Read Online

 Get Print Book

**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:**

#### **Errol Sawyer:**

The book *Succeeding Postmodernism: Language and Humanism in Contemporary American Literature* make one feel enjoy for your spare time. You need to use to make your capable a lot more increase. Book can being your best friend when you getting strain or having big problem with your subject. If you can make studying a book *Succeeding Postmodernism: Language and Humanism in Contemporary American Literature* being your habit, you can get considerably more advantages, like add your capable, increase your knowledge about several or all subjects. You can know everything if you like open and read a guide *Succeeding Postmodernism: Language and Humanism in Contemporary American Literature*. Kinds of book are several. It means that, science book or encyclopedia or others. So , how do you think about this e-book?

#### **Bertha Davis:**

What do you ponder on book? It is just for students since they are still students or that for all people in the world, what the best subject for that? Only you can be answered for that query above. Every person has various personality and hobby for each other. Don't to be pushed someone or something that they don't want do that. You must know how great along with important the book *Succeeding Postmodernism: Language and Humanism in Contemporary American Literature*. All type of book is it possible to see on many resources. You can look for the internet sources or other social media.

#### **Micah Best:**

Do you among people who can't read gratifying if the sentence chained from the straightway, hold on guys that aren't like that. This *Succeeding Postmodernism: Language and Humanism in Contemporary American Literature* book is readable through you who hate the straight word style. You will find the facts here are arrange for enjoyable reading through experience without leaving perhaps decrease the knowledge that want to supply to you. The writer of *Succeeding Postmodernism: Language and Humanism in Contemporary American Literature* content conveys prospect easily to understand by many people. The printed and e-book are not different in the written content but it just different in the form of it. So , do you still thinking *Succeeding Postmodernism: Language and Humanism in Contemporary American Literature* is not loveable to be your top list reading book?

#### **Lawrence Shults:**

The publication with title *Succeeding Postmodernism: Language and Humanism in Contemporary American Literature* has a lot of information that you can find out it. You can get a lot of advantage after read this book. This kind of book exist new knowledge the information that exist in this reserve represented the condition of the world at this point. That is important to yo7u to learn how the improvement of the world. This specific book will bring you inside new era of the internationalization. You can read the e-book on the smart phone, so you can read it anywhere you want.

**Download and Read Online Succeeding Postmodernism: Language and Humanism in Contemporary American Literature By Mary K. Holland #MGDY1IKVCPS**

# **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**