…whatever ended up ‘reading’ him… wasn’t resigned to the human drama…

Revenge of the Lawn

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The aim of this graphic short-form story is two-fold. First, it aims to operationalize an experimental mode of ‘philo-fiction’ (philosophy fiction) on behalf of speculating on an imperceptible world that has today manifest in the forms of climatological change and global pandemic. Second, the submission aims to articulate an image of thinking from the side of the non-human and in which ‘standard’ narrative focus on the actions of protagonists is superseded by alien life.

Keywords: Posthumanism, philo-fiction, speculative fiction, graphic short-form, new materialisms, relationally

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Wallin, J.J. / Revenge of the Lawn

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INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPT BEGINS:

"I knew [redacted] well, we came through grad school together..." "Makes what happened all the more disturbing..."
"I mean, when he got that tenure track appointment at UMI, I was happy and yeah, envious..." "It's what we all wanted - at least I did..."

"He was a big deal back then"
"THE YEAR AFTER [REDACTED] LEFT FOR UMU, I ACCEPTED A POSITION AT UC EAST..."

"[REDACTED] WAS AT EVERY CONFERENCE THOSE DAYS AND WHEN HE WASN'T DOING THAT CIRCUIT..."

"...HE WAS BUSY WITH SPEAKING INVITATIONS FROM ALL OVER THE COUNTRY!"
"I SAW HIM DELIVER A KEYNOTE AT MSDA - HE WAS DRAWING A BIG AUDIENCE, PEOPLE SEEMED TO LIKE HIS STUFF..."

"...I THOUGHT IT WAS FADDISH AND Puerile"

"HE WROTE A BUNCH OF ESSAYS DURING THAT TIME ON NON-HUMAN THINKING..."

"...IT WAS JUST BAD SCI-FI, LET'S FACE IT..."
“HE WAS POPULAR FOR A TIME, BUT YOU KNOW, FADS COME AND GO...”

“...WHEN THE NEO-HUMANIST MANIFESTO DROPPED ON ‘TWEETER’, WELL, PEOPLE STARTED FOLLOWING THAT INSTEAD...”
“...we didn’t really talk much by that point, but I heard from people that it was a hard time for him. I heard that he even got rejected from the IOCS Journal of Research...”

“...I have to admit that I felt a sense of schadenfreude.”
"A WHILE AFTER HIS [LONG PAUSE] FATED TALK AT THE SOCIETY FOR POST-QUALITATIVE INQUIRY CONFERENCE..."

"...A MUTUAL FRIEND WHO WORKS AT THE UNI’S EPIDEMIOLOGY LAB WROTE ME TO SAY THAT WHAT HAPPENED WAS, WELL... IN HIS WORDS..."

"WEIRD AS FUCK"
APPARENTLY, THE AUTOPSY NAMED 'ORGAN FAILURE BY FUNGAL PARASITE' AS AN OFFICIAL CAUSE OF DEATH..."

"...THAT DOESN'T SEEM RIGHT, DOES IT?"
"...A BIT BEFORE HIS LAST LECTURE, HE MADE A SERIES OF POSTS ON IG ABOUT THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF 'THINGS'..."

"...AND HAD SOME QUASI-THEORY BREWING ABOUT HOW WE ARE 'INTERPRETED BY STUFF'..."
"...LIKE LITERALLY ‘READ BY THINGS’ [LAUGHS]"
"I heard from one of the quarantined society delegates...."

"That she was treated with some kind of 'anti-fungal aerosol'...."
"...I GUESS WHATEVER ENDED UP 'READING' HIM... TO PUT IT IN HIS WORDS..."
"...WASN'T RESIGNED TO THE HUMAN DRAMA..."
Memorandum

From: Commanding Officer
Risk Management Office

To: Det. Wallin
Investigative Services Detail

Date: Jan. 20, 2020

Subject:

References


