

One last modernist yap

The Urth list — 2 messages, 2 voices, 27 Oct 1999

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Alice Turner — 27 Oct 1999, 19:17

Oh my, we forgot Pynchon. How could we? Some people even like him a lot, or claim to. I thought -Vineland- was crap, but I don't think that counts. I guess DeLillo is a modernist too, at least sometimes.

Well, I'm sort of astonished that there's so much interest in this subject, but it's a kick, too. I mentioned -Catch-22- as "pop modernism." I'd like to add to that category the oeuvres of Kurt Vonnegut and Philip K. Dick. Vonnegut was an interesting writer, early on. He's become a lazy hack, and I think it's great that he's announced his "retirement," since I don't want to read any more of his books. Dick was a hack too, but I think he could be counted among the more interesting pop modernists. I confess that I never could read much of him either. (One of the conditions for joining the club seems to be relative unreadability.) His post-mortem elevation is certainly a phenomenon.

And no, Alex, I don't want to discuss racism yet. First I have to defend my geographical theories!

Oh, and Wombat, thanks for picking out the nugget of gold in my last leaden rant.

-alga

Jack Lyons — 27 Oct 1999, 20:01 · follows Alice Turner

On Wed, 27 Oct 1999, Alice Turner wrote:

:Oh my, we forgot Pynchon.

I didn't. :) My heavily dog-eared and annotated copy of Gravity's Rainbow has faithfully graced my nightstand for many, many years. Just pick it up and start reading, anywhere. :)