David Foster Wallace:
An Inventory of His Papers at the Harry Ransom Center

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Wallace, David Foster (1962-2008)
Title: David Foster Wallace Papers
Dates: 1971-2008
Extent: 44 document boxes, 8 oversize folders (18.48 linear feet)
Abstract: The David Foster Wallace Papers document all but one of Wallace's major works, and many of his shorter works.
Call Number: Manuscript Collection MS-5155
Language: English
Access: Open for research

Administrative Information

Acquisition: Purchase, 2009 (09-11-011-P, 12-03-010-P, 12-10-005-P)
Processed by: Stephen Cooper, 2010; Jenn Shapland, 2012
Repository: The University of Texas at Austin, Harry Ransom Center
Biographical Sketch

David Foster Wallace was born February 21, 1962, in Ithaca, New York. His father, James Wallace, is a philosophy professor at the University of Illinois, and his mother, Sally Foster Wallace, is an instructor in English at Parkland College, a community college in Champaign, Illinois. Amy Wallace Havens, Wallace's younger sister, practices law in Tucson, Arizona. Wallace married artist Karen Green in 2004.

As an adolescent, Wallace played football and was a regionally ranked tennis player, but his interest in writing and language was influenced by his parents, who read *Ulysses* out loud to each other. His father read *Moby-Dick* to Wallace and his sister when they were only eight and six years old, and his mother would playfully pretend to have a coughing fit if one of the children made a usage error during supper conversation.

Wallace graduated *summa cum laude* from Amherst College in 1985 with a double major in Philosophy and English. His philosophy senior thesis dealt with semantics and modal logic concerning Aristotle's sea battle. His English senior thesis, around 700 pages and written in five months, turned into Wallace's first novel, *The Broom of the System* (1987), which attracted positive attention and comparisons to the work of Jorge Luis Borges and Thomas Pynchon. At Amherst, Wallace served for a time as managing editor of *Sabrina, The Humor Magazine of Amherst College*, and upon graduation he accepted a fellowship in the writing program at the University of Arizona, where he graduated with an M.F.A. in 1987. While a graduate student, Wallace met Bonnie Nadell, a literary agent in San Francisco, who read an excerpt of *The Broom of the System* that Wallace had submitted to her agency. Nadell took on Wallace as a client, establishing a professional and personal relationship that lasted the rest of his life.


In addition to the shorter pieces in his collected works, Wallace authored dozens of stories, non-fiction articles, and book reviews for, among others, the *Amherst Review*, the *Atlantic Monthly*, *Harper's Magazine*, the *New Yorker*, the *New York Times*, the *Paris Review*, *Poetry in Review*, *Rolling Stone*, *Salon.com*, the *Village Voice*, the *Washington Post*, and numerous anthologies. He was the recipient of a Whiting Writers' Award in 1987; a Yaddo residency fellowship in 1987 and 1989; a John Traine Humor Prize in 1988 for "Little Expressionless Animals"; a National Endowment for the Arts fellowship in 1989; an Illinois Arts Council Award for Nonfiction in 1989 for "Fictional Futures and the Conspicuously Young"; a Quality Paperback Book Club's New Voices Award in Fiction in 1991 for *Girl with Curious Hair*; a National Magazine Award
Wallace, David Foster (1962-2008)  
Manuscript Collection MS-5155


Having suffered from anxiety attacks since his late teens, Wallace was diagnosed with clinical depression during his sophomore year at Amherst. He struggled with the condition for the rest of his life, and after a particularly rough period during which his usual medication was no longer effective, Wallace killed himself on September 12, 2008, at his home in California. His final novel, *The Pale King*, which remained unfinished at the time of his death, was published in 2011 by Little, Brown and Company under the guidance of his long-time editor Michael Pietsch. Wallace worked at the Internal Revenue Service and took accounting classes in preparation for the novel, which focuses on the employees of an IRS office.

Sources:


Scope and Contents

The David Foster Wallace Papers document all but one of Wallace's major works and many of his shorter works. The major works represented are: *Brief Interviews with Hideous Men* (1999); *The Broom of the System* (1987); *Consider the Lobster, And Other Essays* (2005); *Everything and More: A Compact History of Infinity* (2003); *Girl with Curious Hair* (1989); *Infinite Jest* (1996); *Oblivion: Stories* (2004); *The Pale King* (2011); and *A Supposedly Fun Thing I'll Never Do Again: Essays and Arguments* (1997). *McCain's Promise: Aboard the Straight Talk Express* (2008) is documented with two previously published short versions titled "The Weasel, Twelve Monkeys, and the
Shrub," and "Up, Simba." *Signifying Rappers: Rap and Race in the Urban Present* (1990), coauthored by Wallace and Mark Costello, is Wallace's only major work without representation. See the Index of Works for a complete listing of all titles in the papers.


Series I. makes up the bulk of the collection and includes handwritten notes and drafts, notebooks, interview notes, research materials, typescript drafts, proofs, and promotional materials. Some works are represented by as little as a single uncorrected typescript, but other works, such as *Everything and More*, provide comprehensive documentation of Wallace's full creative process with research materials, notebooks, handwritten drafts, original and revised typescript drafts, annotated and corrected 1st, 2nd, and 3rd pass copyedited drafts, and related correspondence. The majority of the typewritten drafts contain significant annotations and corrections by Wallace, often in different color inks for subsequent passes through a particular draft. Also present are Wallace's many comments, frequently humorous and often written on sticky notes attached to the transcripts, written to the people involved in the various stages of editing.

Series II. contains personal and professional records including teaching materials, childhood schoolwork, and college awards, essays, and exams. Also present are some personal journal pages, research materials such as handwritten entomology notes, and an "evidence" notebook containing freewriting, descriptive phrases, figures of speech, and story ideas.

Series III. consists solely of photocopy typescripts of three works by Don DeLillo, one of which, *Underworld*, contains extensive handwritten annotations by Wallace.

Series IV. includes materials related to *The Pale King*. The series comprises handwritten and typescript drafts, outlines, and characters lists; research print outs and visual aids; and a set of notebooks that contain reading notes, names, snippets of dialogue, definitions, quotations, and clippings. Manuscript materials have been organized according to batch and log numbers taken from a spreadsheet provided by Wallace's editor Michael Pietsch. These numbers are indicated on the folders and correspond to the spreadsheet page(s) included in each corresponding folder. A copy of the full spreadsheet is available in the front of Box 1. Where possible, the finding aid indicates the source location for each manuscript batch (e.g. "from his desk" or from a particular disk).

A relatively small amount of correspondence is in the papers, and what is present is almost entirely work-related between Wallace and his editors, fact-checkers, etc. All incoming letters are listed in an Index of Correspondents. The majority of Wallace's papers are in excellent condition, with only a few items requiring preservation restrictions, photocopying, and/or special housings.
**Related Material**

Additional Wallace materials are located at the Ransom Center in the David Foster Wallace Collection, the Bonnie Nadell Collection of David Foster Wallace, the Steven Moore Collection of David Foster Wallace, the Don DeLillo Papers, and the James Linville *Paris Review* Collection.

**Separated Material**

320 books arrived at the Ransom Center with the David Foster Wallace Papers, all a part of Wallace's personal library gathered from his home. These volumes are housed in the Ransom Center Library and are listed in the University of Texas [Library Catalog](https://librarycatalog). 11 books in the collection are restricted from access at the request of the estate.

One author-marked copy of *Infinite Jest*, the contents of thirteen folders, several author-marked pages of typescripts from additional folders, and one notebook with loose sheets have been removed from the papers and housed separately due to preservation restrictions. Photocopy or digital scan printouts of the separated materials are available in their place. The original materials may be viewed only with curatorial approval.

**Index Terms**

**Subjects**
- American literature -- 20th century
- Authors, American -- 20th century
- DeLillo, Don
- Modernism (Literature) -- United States

**Document Types**
- Galley proofs
- Juvenilia
## Series I. Works, 1984-2006, undated

### Subseries A. Novels and Collections, 1987-2006, undated

*Brief Interviews with Hideous Men* (short story collection, 1999)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Container</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Octet&quot; typescript, undated (published as &quot;Pop Quiz&quot; in <em>Spelunker Flophouse</em> Vol. 1, No. 4, 1997)</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Suicide as a Sort of Present,&quot; typescript, undated (published as &quot;Self-Harm as a Sort of Offering&quot; in <em>Mid-American Review</em>, No. 18, Spring 1998)</td>
<td></td>
<td>35.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marked typescript, undated</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.5-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Marked set,' 20-25 January 1999</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Marked set' (continued)</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.1-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contents page, undated</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The Broom of the System* (novel, 1987)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Container</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Inside,&quot; typescript draft, four copies, undated</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Chapter 8,' typescript draft, undated</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Typescript draft, undated</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.6-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Typescript draft, (continued)</td>
<td></td>
<td>4.1-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Typescript draft fragments, undated</td>
<td></td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penguin press materials, 1987</td>
<td></td>
<td>4.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Consider the Lobster, And Other Essays* (essay collection, 2005)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Container</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Authority and American Usage,&quot; corrected typescript drafts, undated</td>
<td></td>
<td>4.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Consider the Lobster,&quot; typescript draft, undated</td>
<td></td>
<td>4.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Host&quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Design manuscript,' December 2004 [*removed to oversize flat files]</td>
<td></td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'First pass' draft, 8 July 2005</td>
<td></td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
'Master proof,' 22 July 2005 [*some pages removed to Box 34 due to preservation restrictions]  Container 4.9*

'C/E dupe,' undated  Container 4.10

"How Tracy Austin Broke My Heart," handwritten and typescript drafts, undated  Container 4.11

"Joseph Frank's Dostoevsky," handwritten and typescript drafts, research materials, undated  Container 4.12

"A Series of Remarks on Kafka's Funniness," typescript drafts, undated  Container 4.5

"Up, Simba," correspondence, typescript drafts, and draft fragments, undated  Container 4.13

"Up, Simba" (continued)  Container 5.1-3

Typescript draft, December 2004  Container 5.4-6

'Author set' proofs, 22 July 2005  Container 5.7-8

'Author set' (continued)  Container 6.1

'Little, Brown set' and photocopy, 22 July-15 August 2005  Container 6.2-6

'Little, Brown set' (continued) [*some pages removed due to preservation restrictions]  Container 7.1*

'Extremely uncorrected' advance proofs, photocopy, undated  Container 7.2-3

Advance proofs, copyedited, undated [*some pages removed due to preservation restrictions]  Container 7. 4-5*

Advance proofs (continued)  Container 8.1

Correspondence, 2005  Container 8.2

Everything and More: A Compact History of Infinity (nonfiction, 2003)

'General outline' and 'index for notebooks A, B, and C,' 11/2001  Container 8.3

Notebooks A, B, and C, May-October 2001  Container 8.4-6

Notebooks 1, 2, 3, and 4, undated  Container 8.7-10
Research materials, 2002, undated

Notes and draft fragments, 2001-2002, undated

Corrected draft, undated

Typescript draft, 28 February 2002

Typescript with author's editing instructions, 2 July 2002

'Redone version,' typescript, September 2002

'Redone version' (continued)

Typescript photocopy with author's corrections, undated

Copyedited typescript and photocopy, undated

Copyedited typescript photocopy (continued)

'Marked set,' 2002-2003

'Proofreader's set, 1st pass master,' 10 April-5 May 2003

'Proofreader's set' (continued)

'Author's set, 2nd pass' and photocopy, 11 July 2003

'Author's set, 2nd pass' (continued) [*some pages removed due to preservation restrictions]

'Master 2nd pass,' 11-15 July 2003

'Early 3rd pass, fixed sheets,' August 2003

'3rd pass, author's set,' 4-13 August 2003

'3rd pass, author's set' (continued)

Correspondence

Jesse Cohen, 2002-2003, undated [*printed scans only; originals removed due to preservation restrictions]
'Special notes for Jesse Cohen and copyeditor,' undated [*printed scans only; originals removed due to preservation restrictions]  

Container 14.4*

Erica Neely, 2001-2002 [*printed scans only; originals removed due to preservation restrictions]  

Container 14.5*

**Girl with Curious Hair** (short story collection, 1989)

Draft fragments, 1987, undated [*printed scans only; originals removed due to preservation restrictions]  

Container 14.6-7*

Incomplete typescript chapter set, undated [*printed scans only; originals removed due to preservation restrictions]  

Container 14.8*

Incomplete typescript chapter set (continued)  

Container 15.1*

'Original draft,' undated  

Container 15.2-3

**Infinite Jest** (novel, 1996)

Handwritten drafts, undated  

Container 15.4-7

'First two sections,' typescript drafts and photocopy, undated  

Container 16.1-6

Typescript draft fragments, undated  

Container 16.7

Typescript draft fragment (continued)  

Container 17.1-3

Typescript draft, with corrections, undated  

Container 17.4-8

Typescript draft (continued)  

Container 18.1-6

Draft for copyedit, undated  

Container 18.7

Draft for copyedit (continued)  

Container 19.1-6

Draft for copyedit (continued)  

Container 20.1-4

Typescript, copyedited, May-June 1995, undated  

Container 20.5-6

Typescript, copyedited (continued)  

Container 21.1-5

Typescript, copyedited (continued)  

Container 22.1-3

Proof set, 5 September 1995  

Container 22.4-6
Proof set, 6-22 September 1995  Container 23.1-5

Notepad with corrections list  Container 23.6

Digital copy printouts of 'corrections of typos/errors for paperback printing of *Infinite Jest,*' from 1st edition, 2nd printing *Infinite Jest* hardcover, 1996 [*book removed due to preservation restrictions*]  Container 23.7*

Correspondence

Little, Brown and Co., 1994  Container 23.8

Fan letter, 1997  Container 23.9

Promotional poster, undated [*removed to oversize flat files*]  Container *

Promotional poster for paperback edition, undated [*removed to oversize flat files*]


"Another Pioneer," typescript, undated  Container 24.1

"Good Old Neon"

Handwritten drafts, undated  Container 24.2

'2nd to last draft,' 16 September 2001  Container 24.3

'Final' draft, 25 September 2001  Container 24.4

"Mister Squishy"

Handwritten drafts, undated  Container 24.5

Typescript drafts, June 2000-September 2001, undated  Container 24.6

"Oblivion"

Handwritten draft, undated  Container 24.7

Typescript draft, July 2001  Container 24.8

"The Suffering Channel," typescript draft, undated  Container 24.9

Typescript, uncorrected, undated  Container 24.10-11

Typescript, uncorrected (continued)  Container 25.1
'Advance proofs,' undated

'Author's set,' 2-3 March 2004 [*some pages removed due to preservation restrictions]

_The Pale King_ (novel, 2011)

Handwritten drafts 'freewriting' and 'Fierce Infant,' undated

Research materials

  Accounting classes, 1997-1998

  Boredom

  'Midwesternisms' notebook, undated

  Scams, fraud, self defense

  Tax law, 2005-2006, undated

  Correspondence, 1997-2006

_A Supposedly Fun Thing I'll Never Do Again: Essays and Arguments_ (essay collection, 1997)

"A Supposedly Fun Thing I'll Never Do Again," photocopied corrected draft, undated

"David Lynch Keeps His Head"

  Handwritten notes and draft, undated

  Photocopied corrected draft, undated

"Tennis Player Michael Joyce's Professional Artistry as a Paradigm of Certain Stuff about Choice, Freedom, Discipline, Joy, Grotesquerie, and Human Completeness," photocopied corrected draft, undated

Copyedited set, undated

'Author set' proofs, 29-31 October 1996

Proof set, 29-31 October 1996 [*some pages removed due to preservation restrictions]

Subseries B. Short works, 1984-2006, undated

Typescript draft, undated

Galleys, 27 April 1998

All Things to One Man, typescript, undated (published as "Late Night" in *Playboy*, June 1988; later collected in *Girl With Curious Hair* as "My Appearance," 1989)


Crash of '62, typescripts, undated (University of Arizona essay; later published in *Between C & D*, Winter 1989 as "Crash of '69")


"Democracy and Commerce at the U. S. Open" (*Tennis*, September 1996)

Notebook, undated

Typescript, undated


The Enema Bandit and the Cosmic Buzzer, typescript, undated (unpublished) [*printed scans only; originals removed due to preservation restrictions*]


Interview notes, undated

Research materials, undated

Typescript drafts, undated

Typescript drafts (continued)
Correspondence, 2006, undated [*printed scans only; originals removed due to preservation restrictions]

*Play copies, 2006

"Fictional Futures and the Conspicuously Young," typescript draft, undated (The Review of Contemporary Fiction VIII: 3, 1988)

"Five Direly Underappreciated U. S. Novels," faxed typescript, 1999 (Salon.com, April 12, 1999)

Here and There, typescript, 1989 (writing sample for Yaddo application)

"Host," layout photocopy typescript, August 2004 (The Atlantic Monthly, April 2005; later collected in Consider the Lobster, 2005) [*removed to oversize flat files]


"John Billy," typescripts, undated (Conjunctions: 12, 1988)

"John Updike, Champion Literary Phallerat, Drops One: Is This Finally the End for the Magnificent Narcissists?," handwritten notes, typescript drafts, undated (The New York Observer, October 13, 1997)


"My Commencement Speech," handwritten and typescript drafts, 2005 (speech delivered at Kenyon College, 2005) [*printed scans only; originals removed due to preservation restrictions]


"Neither Adult Nor Entertainment" (Premiere, September, 1998; later collected in Consider the Lobster, 2000)

Handwritten and typed notes and drafts, undated

Typescript draft, undated

'Initial layout,' December 1997 [*removed to oversize flat files]

Correspondence, undated
"Nothing Happened," typescripts, undated (Open City, Number Five, 1997)

"Order and Flux in Northampton," typescript drafts, 1989, undated (Conjunctions: 17, Fall 1991)

"Other Math," typescript, undated (Western Humanities Review, Summer, 1987)


"The Planet Trillaphon as it Stands in Relation to the Bad Thing," printed excerpt, undated (The Amherst Review, v. XII, 1984)


"Self-Harm as a Sort of Offering," typescript, undated (Mid-American Review, No. 18, Spring 1998; later collected in Brief Interviews with Hideous Men, 1999, as "Suicide as a Kind of Present")


Shorter pieces


"The Best of the Prose Poem: An International Journal" book review, typescript drafts, undated (Rain Taxi, Spring 2001)

"The Blindfold" book review, undated (Contemporary Literary Criticism Vol. 76, 1992; and The Philadelphia Inquirer, May 24, 1992)

"Sage Pronouncement," December 1992 (Published as "From Quite A Bit Longer Thing in Progress," *Conjunctions*: 20, Spring 1993)

"Solomon Silverfish," typescript, undated (*Sonora Review*, No. 16, Fall 1987)


Notebook, July 1995

Typescript, March 1996


Notes and research materials, undated

Handwritten and typescript drafts, undated

*Harper's Magazine* proofs and correspondence, 2001

"Think," typescript draft, undated (*Conjunctions*: 28, Spring 1997)


"The View From Mrs. Thompson's," handwritten and typescript drafts, undated (*Rolling Stone Magazine*, October 25, 2001; later collected in *Consider the Lobster*, 2005)


Notebook, undated

McCain research materials, 1998-2000, undated

McCain research materials (continued)

Handwritten, typescript, and faxed drafts and proof, 2000, undated

Layout proof, March 2000 [* removed to oversize flat files]
Series II. Personal and Career-Related, 1971-2008, undated

Amherst College

Essays and exams, 1980-1981, undated [*printed scans only; originals removed due to preservation restrictions]  Container 31.6*


Awards, acceptance letters, 1979-1999 [*printed scans only; originals removed due to preservation restrictions; oversize removed to flat files]  Container 31.7*

Book withdrawals, 1988-2006, undated  Container 35.1

Correspondence, 1992-2007  Container 31.8

Draft of colleague's article, typescript with handwritten notes, undated  Container 35.2

Early schoolwork, 1971-1977, undated [*printed scans only; originals removed due to preservation restrictions]  Container 31.9*

Empty folder labeled 'Emptiness/Closeness essay,' undated  Container 31.10

Evidence notebook, typed and handwritten freewriting, descriptive phrases, figures of speech, and story ideas, undated  Container 43.1


Newspaper clipping, reading announcement, 1987, undated  Container 31.13

Personal journal pages, 1996, undated  Container 31.14

Research Materials


Entomology notes, handwritten, undated  Container 32.3
Fleishman Hillard International Communications binder, 2000

Container 32.4

White, Curtis. *The Middle Mind: From the Poverty of the American Imagination to the New Sublime*, 2003, with handwritten notes

Container 32.5

*Sabrina, The Humor Magazine of Amherst College*, 4 issues, November 1982-April 1983 [*removed to oversize flat files]*

Container *

Teaching materials

Class syllabi, 1992-2008

Container 32.6

Taught essays and writing topics, undated

Container 32.7-8

Teaching notes, undated

Container 32.9

Vocabulary lists, 1989-1997, undated

Container 32.10

Quizzes, essay exams, paper assignments, 1989-1994, undated

Container 32.11
**Series III. Copies of Works by Don DeLillo, undated**

*Love-Lies-Bleeding: A Play*, photocopy typescript with handwritten annotations, undated

*Underworld*, Parts One, Two, and Three, bound photocopy typescript with handwritten annotations, undated

*Valparaiso: A Play in Two Acts*, photocopy typescript unmarked, undated

Materials separated from 2.1-3, 4.9, 7.1, 7.4-5, 13.1-3, 14.3-8, 23.7, 25.5-7, 27.9, 28.2, 28.10-11, 31.6-7, 31.9, 41.1, and 41.7 due to preservation restrictions [available only with curatorial approval]

Typescript drafts with handwritten edits, undated

"From his desk: clean print outs"  
"From his wire basket"

Typescript and handwritten drafts, "Electric Girl" folder, "from his wire basket," undated

Typescript drafts

2005-2006, "WPK ZIP disk print outs"

"WPK ZIP disk print outs" (continued)

Fragments, 5" floppy disk #1 print outs, 1992-1997

5" floppy disk #3 print outs, 1990-1998

Disk contents sheets, "very fragmentated pages from the corrupted disk," undated

Typescript drafts

"Pale King 2" and SS # Index, 2007


Typescript and handwritten drafts, undated

Handwritten drafts, 1997-2005, undated

Handwritten drafts, 1997-2005 (continued)

Handwritten and typescript drafts from "Glitterer/SJF" freewriting binder, 2005-2007, undated

Butterfly notebook, notes and clippings, undated

Handwritten drafts

Green spiral notebook, undated
Green spiral "Reward for Return" notebook, undated [*printed scans only; original notebook removed due to preservation restrictions]  Container 41.1*

Harvey Mudd notebook, undated  Container 41.2

Pink kitten "Scenes" notebook, undated  Container 41.3

Handwritten "Roster of Parts," Rugrats™ notebook, undated  Container 41.4

Leather-wrapped notebook, photos, haiku, clippings and notes, undated  Container 41.5

Klimt notebook, handwritten notes, undated  Container 41.6

Records notebook, notes and clippings, undated [*printed scans only; original notebook removed due to preservation restrictions]  Container 41.7*

Visual aids, IRS research, printouts, Peoria map, 2005  Container 41.8

Book withdrawals, 2006, undated  Container 41.9
Index of Correspondents

- Bernard-Shellman, Jerry--26.8
- Cohen, Jesse--14.3
- Conn, Charis--27.7
- Dean, Josh--28.2
- Einstein, Susanna--5.1
- Espen, Hal--26.12
- Freudenthal, Peggy--8.2, 20.5
- Garner, Dwight--29.12
- Gehron, Katie--25.2
- Graham, April--8.2
- Gunderson, Tanya--31.8
- Harbach, Chad--31.8
- Harrison, Colin--30.6
- Harrison, Jim--31.8
- Kenny, Glenn--29.3
- Lacy, Stephen--26.8
- Linton, Frank--26.8
- Lorberer, Eric--29.12
- Lovell, Joel--28.9
- Menaker, Daniel--29.10
- Monda, Antonio--28.2
- Neely, Erica--14.5
- Pearce, Christine--29.9
- Pietsch, Michael--4.12, 23.8
- Silverstein, Mary LaMotte--30.6
- Suter, Sherman--29.9
- Tarter, John Charles--9.2
- Testa, [Martina]--31.8
- Uhrig, Betsy--8.2
- Wallace, James D.--36.3
- Watson, Peyton (Watson, Bernard Peyton)--23.9
- Wengert, Bob--9.2
- _____, Mimi--26.8, 28.2
Index of Works

- "All Things to One Man" -- 26.11 (see also Girl with Curious Hair)
- "Another Pioneer" -- 24.1
- "The (As it Were) Seminal Importance of Terminator 2" -- 29.12
- "Authority and American Usage" -- 4.6 (see also "Tense Present: Democracy, English and the Wars Over Usage")
- Back in New Fire -- 29.12
- "The Blindfold" -- 29.12
- "Borges: A Life" -- 29.12
- Brief Interviews with Hideous Men -- 2.4-3.3
- "Brief Interviews with Hideous Men" -- 26.13
- The Broom of the System -- 3.4-4.4
- "Church Not Made With Hands" -- 27.1
- "Consider the Lobster" -- 4.7
- Consider the Lobster, And Other Essays -- 4.5-8.2 (see also "Neither Adult Nor Entertainment," "The View From Mrs. Thompson's," and "The Weasel, Twelve Monkeys, and the Shrub: Seven Days in the Life of the Late, Great John McCain")
- Crash of '62 -- 27.2
- "Datum Centenarius" -- 27.3
- "David Lynch Keeps His Head" -- 1.2-3
- "Democracy and Commerce at the U. S. Open" -- 27.4-5
- "The Depressed Person" -- 27.6-7
- "E Unibus Pluram: Television and U. S. Fiction" -- 27.8
- The Enema Bandit and the Cosmic Buzzer -- 27.9
- Everything and More: A Compact History of Infinity -- 8.3-14.5
- "F/X Porn" (see The (As it Were) Seminal Importance of Terminator 2)
- "Federer As Religious Experience" -- 27.10-28.3
- "Fictional Futures and the Conspicuously Young" -- 28.4
- "Five Direly Underappreciated U. S. Novels" -- 28.5
- "From Quite A Bit Longer Thing in Progress" (see "Sage Pronouncement")
- Girl with Curious Hair -- 14.6-15.3 (see also All Things to One Man)
- "Good Old Neon" -- 24.2-4
- "Hail the Returning Dragon, Clothed in New Fire" (see Back in New Fire)
- Here and There -- 28.6
- "Host" -- 4.8-10
- "How Tracy Austin Broke My Heart" -- 4.11
- "Impediments to Passion" (see Back in New Fire)
- Infinite Jest -- 15.4-23.9
- "Inside" -- 3.4
- "An Interval" -- 26.12
- "John Billy" -- 28.7
- "John Updike, Champion Literary Phallerat, Drops One: Is This Finally the End for the Magnificent Narcissists?" -- 28.8
- "Joseph Frank's Dostoevsky" -- 4.12
- "Late Night" (see All Things to One Man and Girl with Curious Hair)
- "Laughing with Kafka" -- 28.9 (see also "A Series of Remarks on Kafka's Funniness")
- "Mister Squishy" -- 24.5-6
- "My Appearance" (see All Things to One Man and Girl with Curious Hair)
- "My Commencement Speech" -- 28.10-11
"The Nature of Fun"--28.12
"Neither Adult Nor Entertainment"--29.1-3 (see also Consider the Lobster, And Other Essays)
"Nothing Happened"--29.4
"Oblivion"--24.7-8
"Oblivion: Stories"--24.1-25.7
"Octet"--2.4
"Order and Flux in Northampton"--29.5
"Other Math"--29.6
"The Pale King"--26.1-8, 31.12, 36.1-41.9
"Passion, Digitally" (see "Datum Centenarius")
"The Piano in the Pantechnicon"--29.7
"The Planet Trillaphon as it Stands in Relation to the Bad Thing"--29.8
"Pop Quiz" (see "Octet")
"Rhetoric and the Math Melodrama"--29.9
"Richard Taylor's 'Fatalism' and the Semantics of Physical Modality"--35.5-6
"Sage Pronouncement"--29.12
"Self-harm as a Sort of Offering"--35.3 (see also "Suicide as a Type of Present")
"A Series of Remarks on Kafka's Funniness"--4.5 (see also "Laughing with Kafka")
"Several Birds"--29.10
"Shipping Out: On the (nearly lethal) comforts of a luxury cruise"--29.12 (see also "A Supposedly Fun Thing I'll Never Do Again")
"Solomon Silverfish"--29.13
"The String Theory"--29.14-15
"The Suffering Channel"--24.9
"Suicide as a Type of Present"--35.4 (see also "Self-harm as a Sort of Offering")
"A Supposedly Fun Thing I'll Never Do Again"--1.1 (see also "Shipping Out: On the (nearly lethal) comforts of a luxury cruise")

*A Supposedly Fun Thing I'll Never Do Again: Essays and Arguments*--1.1-2.3
"Tennis Player Michael Joyce's Professional Artistry as a Paradigm of Certain Stuff about Choice, Freedom, Discipline, Joy, Grotesquerie, and Human Completeness"--1.4
"Tense Present: Democracy, English and the Wars Over Usage"--30.1-7 (see also "Authority and American Usage")
"Think"--30.8
"Tri-Stan: I Sold Sissee Nar to Ecko"--30.9-10 (see also *Brief Interviews with Hideous Men*)
"Up, Simba"--4.13, 5.1-3 (see also "The Weasel, Twelve Monkeys, and the Shrub: Seven Days in the Life of the Late, Great John McCain")
"The View From Mrs. Thompson's"--30.11 (see also Consider the Lobster, And Other Essays)
"The Weasel, Twelve Monkeys, and the Shrub: Seven Days in the Life of the Late, Great John McCain"--30.12-31.5 (see also "Up, Simba")