

STORY TROUBLE

with Kim David Bots

This document is concieved of as a resource, listing the exercises developed for the three-part workshop "Story Trouble" at Louise Dany, Oslo, along with material shown and discussed as part of the workshop.

Presentation:

- (video) <u>Lydia Davis: Reading 'Goodbye Louise'</u> (from 0:00 to 3:35)
- (video) Excerpt from *Donna Haraway: Story Telling for Earthly Survival*, Fabrizio Terranova, 2016
- (video) A Bit of Fry and Laurie Flexibility of Language

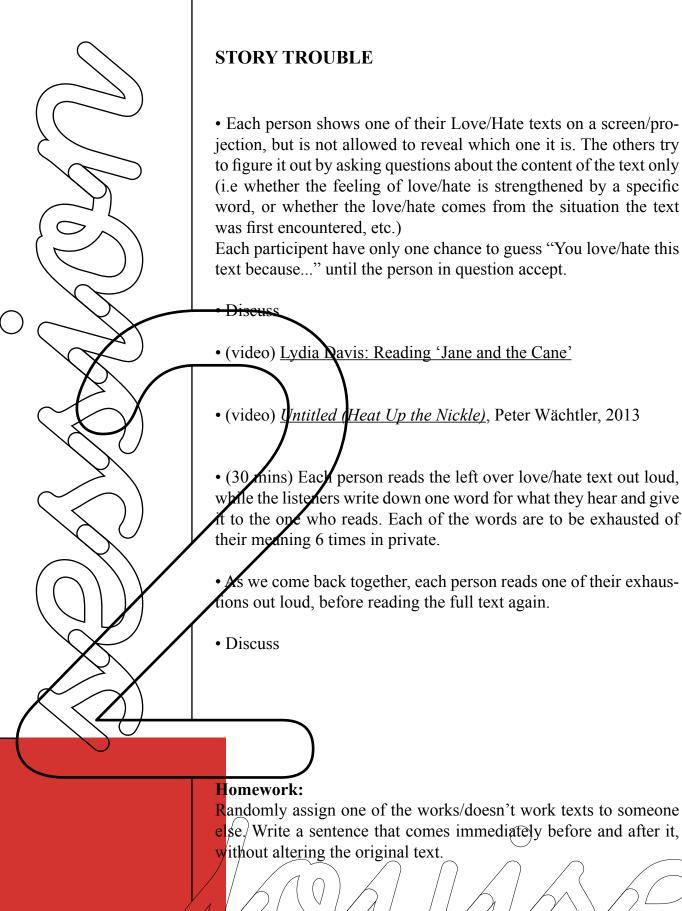
Exercises:

- One small paragraph is chosen in advance and a sentence is isolated from the paragraph.
- (1 min) Participants are given first the singular sentence and asked to circle the word that immediately grabs their attention.
- Discuss the words (What are they? Why did they trigger your interest? What hides inside the word?)
- (3 mins) Participants are then given the paragraph and asked to use a marker to blank out words until they have created a new text from the paragraph.
- Read out loud and discuss the results (Which forms emerge? What informs that form? How can the form be broken?)

Homework:

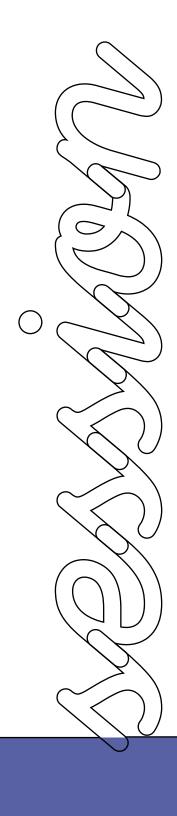
Find a text (no longer than 100 words) that:

- You love
- You hate
- •/"Works"
- oesn't "work"



This workshop was developed by Kim David Bots, Daisuke Kosugi and Ina Hagen for "Story Trouble" at Louise Dany, Oslo, March 7, 10 and 17, 2018 – with generous support from the Arts Council Norway.





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- Start the session with a recap of session 2, focusing on the last exercise.
- Present and Discuss the homework assignment (What was the impression of the original text om first glance? How did the person approach it by adding new text? Did the person follow the style of the original text? How does the owner of the original text feel about it now?)
- Analyse in plenum how each participant approached the text formally.
- (video) The Girl Chewing Gum, John Smith, 1976
- (video) Atoll, bay, beach, Ayatgali Tulleubek, 2018
- (30 mins) Choose one short text that you like or think "works" because of its style or form.
- Discuss
- (30 mins) Try to destroy/contradict/break the "magic" of that form without dismissing your engagement in what you "like" or think "works".
- Read the results and discuss.

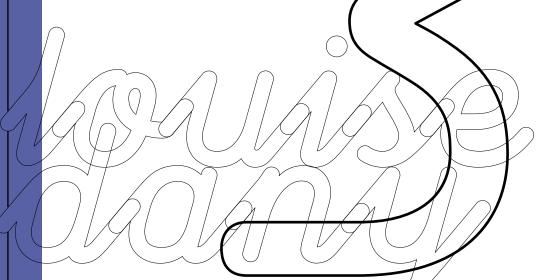
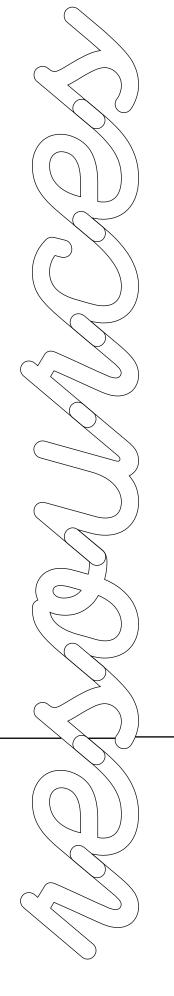






Image from the book "Swendel" (2014) by Kim David Bots



The following list of text and video was the material that emerged during the workshop at Louise Dany, Oslo, and constitutes a suggested, expanded resource list for "Story Trouble"

2

- (sound) Gertrude Stein, *If I Told Him A Completed Portrait of Picasso*, 1923 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FJEIAGULmPQ
- (sound) Adrian Piper talking on the track *Artists Ought to be Writing* by Jason Moran https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ieEEFs23PTw

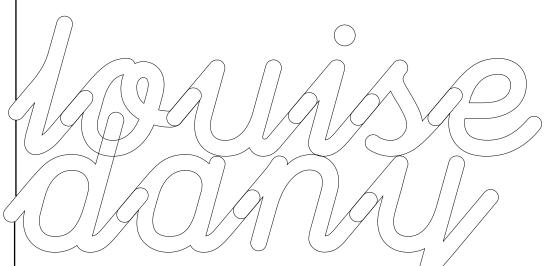
Note: I realised when showing this clip https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x-uIiYOgtEuY adjacent to the above one, the music functions somewhat like the 'exhausting a word' exercise. By using spoken text as direct basis for music/composition, the text is emptied out through its usage. It becomes background.

• (recitation) from Citizen: An American Lyric, Claudia Rankine, 2014

3

• Susan Hiller Lost and Found (2016) http://www.susanhiller.org/installations/lost and found more.html

- (video) Excerpt from "The Analyst, the researcher, the screenwriter, the cgi tech and the lawyer", Neil Beloufa, 2011 https://vimeo.com/29319349
- (video) Mette Edvardsen https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6SZs--Js0uA Note: Regarding repetition of words and how they become form.



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