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Orthoparadoxy, continued

by Michael Theune

History consigned to the dustbin of information.

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In this age of undifferentiation, the boundary, the limit, and the edge are the halo, the corona, the aura.

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Dissolution as solution.

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Reductio ad absorbum.

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Socrates: I am wise because I know I know nothing.
Bataille: You don't know shit.

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We believe in the authentic mostly because we think we see it in other people.

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Via media versus via Medea.

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Value can always be preserved in risk.

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Smashing the blue guitar.

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It is no longer enough to be attentive; attention is the natural piety of a comfortable middle class. Now, one must be alert; alertness is the natural piety of the hunter and the hunted.

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Is irony the only mean between faith and detachment?

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The infinite distance between studying the mystics and being one.

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He hated himself for thinking such shallow thoughts, yet for some reason he thought his hatred special.

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To be a successful post-Romantic: die young, take notes.

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During the revolution, the cathedral goes up in flames, and, after, the flame goes up in cathedrals.

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Sometimes you have to spit on the world to make it shine.

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So many are alive only for the sake of their salvation.

★

Because either they present a once-vital teaching as something outmoded to a changed world or else they present a changed world with an updated version of "the teaching," all disciples are, in some way, betrayers.

★

The reaching after any object is the stretch before sleeping.

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The world is the dead thing that takes one's place for now.

★

Does vertigo increase or decrease the further one falls?

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Perhaps the positivists were right; proper description may be our only deliverance, a formal greeting that exhausts us...

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The flower will not be lifted. Still, must one bow to it?

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The cut worm forgives the plow...Mr. Blake, the worm drives the plow.

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Today the dream is different: the turning point of the still world.

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Many poems are only an inch away from greatness, but that inch must be traversed at light speed.

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If form is, as Coleridge said, a method of proceeding, let's not call form a container but instead call it a reactor.

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Before induction or deduction there must be seduction.

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Today realism is no longer admired for its resemblance or representation. Realism is admired for the sense of masochism there is about its creation.

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Two thousand years before any theory of "the spectacle," the Bible already proclaimed that something always happens where two or three are gathered to look on.

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Television: the status quo unleashed.

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I imagine Icarus sailing through a solar eclipse.

To be continued . . .