

Oct 5, 2021 / original 8/19/21

{ folder
binders
portfolio
file
envelopes }

A - 1

The {Writers who Gave Up on Writing} Lost Masterpiece

ROTH - 1

When the {eminent
acclaimed} novelist

{declared
proclaimed
announced} that he would publish no further novels,

critics and friends [alike] could ^(imagine only) ~~conceive but~~

one explanation: there must be a book in it,

ROTH - 2 {possibly
perhaps} a memoir of life without writing,

or {perhaps
maybe
possibly} a novel about a novelist {who no longer ^{etc} ~~who~~, etc.]

But {the ^{years} years} {go by
pass} and no such

volume appears. Each ~~year~~ morning the

{eminent
acclaimed} ~~each morning~~ {novelist
write} sits down at his desk

to smoke his pipe and each evening he deposits

{that
the} day's ashes in a blue {folder ^{binder}} ~~on the desk~~ ^{this}

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A-2

ROTH-3

The (^{day}morning) of his death, the { ^{binders}folders }
is opened and the ashes ^[it contains] are assumed
to be those of his { ^{long awaited}much anticipated, ^{long awaited} }
book on life without writing.

ROTH-4

Whole volumes are { ^{written}published } ^{produced}speculating
on the contents of (or, in one ^{instance}case),
offering itself as (an early ^{draft}version) of)
this lost volume, (^{among them}including) a novel
widely deemed a masterpiece
{ ^{on a par with}reminiscent of } [any of] the (^{eminent}acclaimed)
novelist's greatest works.