

La última verdad de la ficción (The Last Truth of Fiction)

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Para un escritor y para un lector literarios, la verdad es un acto creativo. El objetivo de este acto es producir ficciones verbales – historias, situaciones y personajes –, lo suficientemente creíbles para que parezcan reales, es decir verdaderas. Para un autor, la verdad es un objetivo particular y privado, el resultado de revisar múltiples versiones de lo escrito para que el lector crea que el texto es el resultado natural de un registro natural y espontáneo de la realidad. Gracias a esta contradicción

¹ **Alonso Cueto** (born 1954, in Lima, Peru) is an acclaimed Peruvian novelist, short-story writer, playwright and essayist. At present he is a full Professor of The Literature and Linguistics Department of the Catholic University of Peru (Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú). Ph.D. from the University of Texas (1984, doctoral thesis on Juan Carlos Onetti). Since 2009 he is a member of Academia Peruana de Lengua; his writings have been awarded various literary prizes and distinctions. His novel *El tigre blanco* (*The White Tiger*), published in 1985 was awarded the Premio Wiracocha (Peru). His novel *Grandes miradas* (2003) was adapted into a movie, entitled *Mariposa negra*, by the director Francisco Lombardi, in 2006. Cueto's novel *La hora azul* (*The Blue Hour*) won the Herralde Prize (Spain) in 2006, and his following book, *El susurro de la mujer ballena* was a runner-up for the prestigious Premio Iberoamericano Planeta, Casa de América. In 200 he was awarded the Anna Seghers Prize (Germany) for his body of work; in 2002 he received a John Simon Guggenheim Foundation grant. Volumes of short fiction: *La batalla del pasado* (1983), *Los vestidos de una dama* (1987), *Amores de invierno* (1994), *Cinco para las nueve y otros cuentos* (1996), *Pálido cielo* (1998). Volumes of essays and interviews: *Mario Vargas Llosa. La vida en movimiento* (2003), *Valses, rajes y cortejos* (2005), *Sueños reales* (2008), *La piel de un escritor. Contar, escribir y leer historias* (2014). His work has been translated into more than 15 languages. Cueto's novel *La viajera del viento* (*Voyager of the Wind*, 2016), along with *The Blue Hour* and *La pasajera* (2015) form a trilogy around violence in recent Peruvian history. His most recent novels are *La segunda amante del rey* (2017), *La Perricholi* (2019), *Otras caricias* (2020). In 2019 he was awarded Juan Goytisolo Prize for his novel *Palabras de otro lado*. Address correspondence to: Alonso Cueto, e-mail: alcue6@gmail.com.