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The Revelations of Violence in the Novel *Senselessness* by Horacio Castellanos Moya[1]

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For decades up to the present, Central America has undergone violence in opposition to its self-determination, resulting in the death, disappearance, and displacement of countless people. In the case of Guatemala, what would be described as genocide was carried out against its Mayan population. Through an analysis of the novel *Senselessness* (2008) – originally published in Spanish in 2004 as *Insensatez* – by the Salvadoran writer born in Honduras, Horacio Castellanos Moya, I will try to elucidate both the ontological origin of this violence and what it reveals with respect to human nature and the effects (among which geographical and existential displacement stands out) it can have on its victims. To achieve this goal, I will use the ideas of Bolívar Echeverría, Sigmund Freud, and Georges Bataille, among others. *[Article copies available for a fee from The Transformative Studies Institute. E-mail address: journal@transformativestudies.org Website: http://www.transformativestudies.org ©2024 by The Transformative Studies Institute. All rights reserved.]*

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[1] This article was originally published in Spanish as "Revelaciones de la violencia en la novela *Insensatez* de Horacio Castellanos Moya" in the journal *Cuadernos del Hipogrifo. Revista de Literatura Hispanoamericana y Comparada* in 2018. Minor modifications have been made to this translation.

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