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Notes on a Poetics of Renunciation

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(Translated from Spanish by Janet Dawn Foley)

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The idea that one can consciously or unconsciously disengage oneself from reality, any reality, during the act of creation is merely an illusion or a simulacrum needed to play that perverse game of substitutions which, basically, lays claim to all writing as well as to any other creative act. So, no matter what we do or how we feel or think, we always wind up in debt to something or someone: a now lost or disfigured memory; the now-contaminated line of poetry; an as yet inebriated face that signals to us through the rain; a bird, transformed into anguish, still dead in our hand; an unidentified longing that follows the saga of an objective with no object; the scent of pleasure under the bed dying like a child

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