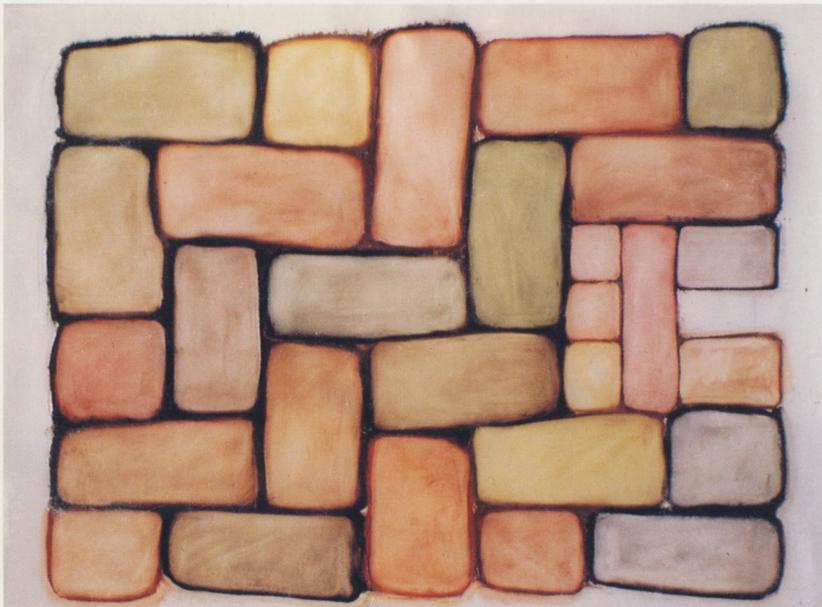


The Iowa Review

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Kathy Acker, George Angel, John Barth,
Jonathan Baumbach, Mary Caponegro, George
Chambers, Lenora Champagne, Robert Coover,
Susan Daitch, Jeffrey DeShell, Rikki Ducornet,
Patricia Eakins, Eurudice, Raymond Federman,
William H. Gass, Laura Gerrity, John Hawkes,
Lucy Hochman, Steve Katz, Janet Kauffman,
Jim Krusoe, Stacey Levine, Ben Marcus, Cris
Mazza, Julie Regan, Lou Robinson, Robert F.
Sayre, Ronald Sukenick, David Foster Wallace,
Curtis White, Diane Williams



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PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The inspiration for this collection of fictions occurred during my tenure as a student at the Iowa Writers' Workshop. As an older student with a background in art, I was stunned by how many of my colleagues so readily dismissed works by authors such as William Gass, Bob Coover, and Donald Barthelme, among others part of the "experimental" or "metafiction" movement of the sixties and seventies. I knew certainly that "experimental" work was still moving forward somewhere and felt it critical that a publication such as *The Iowa Review* present this work in a special issue.

Many contributed to this issue's success. Special thanks go to *Iowa Review* editors, David Hamilton and Mary Hussmann for considering the idea in the first place; William Gass and Robert Coover for their early support and willingness to work with us in assuring its outcome; Douglas Messerli from the Sun and Moon Press and Curt White from the Fiction Collective Two for recommending the writers who were working with non-traditional narrative forms; and finally and most important are the writers themselves whose work within these pages will most certainly shock and dismay while serving as a stubborn reminder that many a reckless future awaits other rebels wherever they may be.

Lee Montgomery
Topanga Canyon, CA