

Abstract

This study develops the concept of the impossibility in literary studies based on analytical philosophy's notion of impossible worlds and inspects the concept's earlier use in literary theory. It presents works which contain logically impossible storyworlds, and defines their characteristics by analyzing, in which ways these narratives break the Law of Non-Contradiction and the Law of the Excluded Middle. This study suggests that breaking the laws of logic can appear as contradictions inside sentences or paragraphs, several simultaneous storylines, or as impossible spaces or times. This study also demonstrates how readers of impossible storyworlds have to make sense of contradictory segments in narratives, and how the process makes readers particularly aware of the fictionality of these narratives.