

Anderson

I am the very model of an eloquent postmodernist

By Juan Watterson

Abstract

This is a parody of a song by Gilbert and Sullivan. It is meant to provide a model of postmodern reading.

To Gilbert and Sullivan's tune: "I am the very model of a modern Major-General"

I am the very model of an eloquent postmodernist,
I know not to be logocentric, factual, or modernist,
I've learned to be reflexive and to challenge all my meanings,
I'm definitely suffering from those postmodernist leanings;
I know I'm at the mercy of unstopping reflexivity,
But not to let it lead to unproductive inactivity,
I know all of the writers through from Derrida to Foucault,
I - understand the concepts but I still can't work out Hassard though.

(He understands the concepts but he still can't work out Hassard though.)

I know now I'm a user of this tool we call de-centricism,
I'm open to a lot of other modernistic criticism,
I don't believe that words and meanings definitely pre-exist,
I am the very model of an eloquent postmodernist.

*(He don't believe that words and meanings definitely pre-exist,
He is the very model of an eloquent postmodernist.)*

I dismiss the idea of such a rationalistic manager,
The new techniques I exercise have made me quite a connoisseur,
Though now I know that meanings simply are representational,
Applying consequences to - frames organisational;
I know these lead to problems of such a great enormity,
But still I'm not subverted by the modernist conformity,
I quote philosophy from Descartes, Russell, Kant, and Nietzsche,
But - I still haven't worked out if this last guy is our teacher!

*(He quotes philosophy from Descartes, Russell, Kant, and Nietzsche, But he still hasn't worked out if
this last guy is our teacher!)*

I know the world comprises a plethora of discourses,
A view that my friend Foucault def-in-itably reinforces,
And though this all takes time and makes things very problematical,
There's no need to get flustered or - stupidly fanatical;
These postmodernist tools are made so methodological,
And prove mea-ning is fund-a-men-tall-y soc-i-ological,
I don't know if 'discourse' is con-sidered taxonomical,
Or any of the implications Pheno-men-ological.

(He doesn't know if discourse is considered taxonomical, Or any of the implications phenomenological.)

Though you may associate these ideas with a solipsist,
I am the very model of an eloquent postmodernist!

*(Though you may associate these ideas with a solipsist,
I am the very model of an eloquent postmodernist!)*