

# Contents

Introduction, or How I Stopped Worrying and Learned To Love Interpretation	1
PART ONE: <i>Literature in the Reader</i>	
1. Literature in the Reader: Affective Stylistics	21
2. What Is Stylistics and Why Are They Saying Such Terrible Things About It?	68
3. How Ordinary Is Ordinary Language?	97
4. What It's Like To Read <i>L'Allegro</i> and <i>Il Penseroso</i>	112
5. Facts and Fictions: A Reply to Ralph Rader	136
6. Interpreting the <i>Variorum</i>	147
7. Interpreting "Interpreting the <i>Variorum</i> "	174
8. Structuralist Homiletics	181
9. How To Do Things with Austin and Searle: Speech- Act Theory and Literary Criticism	197
10. What Is Stylistics and Why Are They Saying Such Terrible Things About It? Part II	246
11. Normal Circumstances and Other Special Cases	268
12. A Reply to John Reichert	293
PART TWO: <i>Interpretive Authority in the Classroom and in Literary Criticism</i>	
13. Is There a Text in This Class?	303
14. How To Recognize a Poem When You See One	322
15. What Makes an Interpretation Acceptable?	338
16. Demonstration vs. Persuasion: Two Models of Critical Activity	356
Notes	373
Index	391