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ADDING LIFE, ERASING THE RECORD

Keywords: *Biography, Autobiography, Memoir, Subject, Postmodern(ity), Bureaucracy, Secret Police.*

Abstract. *This essay addresses two forms of life-telling: the automatic and the palliative. In the opinion of this author, who has written three memoirs, the first was once, but no longer, vulnerable to social revolution, the second is a perennial placebo. The (im)possibility of autobiography or even of the autobiographical subject is explored through the changing qualities and quantities of memory now available in the new media, and how they affect memoir, autobiography, and the (re) (dis) membered subject.*