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# The Night Before the Elections and other stories

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AN ABSTRACT OF THE THESIS OF

Patrick J. Clarke for the degree of Master of Arts in English, presented on May 26, 1995.

Title: The Night before the Elections and Other Stories

*Redacted for Privacy*

Abstract approved

Marylin Swade

The thesis focuses on stories of childhood. To me, they concern the shift between dependence on independence, comfort to instability, which is dangerous for the characters but also a point of awakening. The move from childhood to adulthood puts the characters in a world that is neither made for the adult or the child, but something between these two. It's here that a kind of mystery—in the sense of wonder, error and subsequently, awe—exists.

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Creator	<a href="#">Clarke, Patrick J.</a>
Abstract	The stories here are stories of childhood. To me, they concern the shift between dependence to independence, comfort to instability, which is disastrous for the characters but also a point of awakening. The move from childhood to adulthood puts the characters in a world that is neither made for the adult or the child, but someplace between these two. It's here that a kind of mystery-in the sense of wonder, terror and subsequently, grace-exists.
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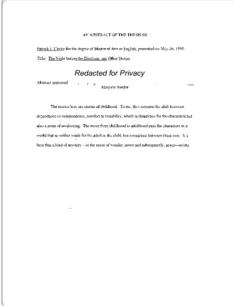
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