

*Erasure*

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for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

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## ABSTRACT OF THE CREATIVE WORK

‘Patricio Muñoz’ is an aspiring writer. One day he meets Emmanuel Huffman, a professor at St. Sebastian University, Maragos. Professor Huffman offers ‘Mr. Muñoz’ a position as Writer in Residence and an opportunity to compile and edit an anthology of short fiction titled ‘Testimony’. The position entails relocating to Maragos and ‘Mr. Muñoz’ readily accepts the offer.

Upon arriving in Maragos, ‘Mr. Muñoz’ realises that Professor Huffman’s intentions were not entirely generous. Maragos is a country ruled by an oppressive regime. The government will do anything to find and prosecute individuals whom it believes oppose the regime.

*Erasure* is a work of fiction. It is divided into three parts. Part One is a complete copy of the anthology edited by ‘Patricio Muñoz’. Part Two is comprised of Professor Huffman’s reflections upon his situation. Finally, Part Three recounts the efforts of an over-zealous intelligence officer named Eric Garnett, who tries to find and prosecute the authors within the anthology.

*Erasure* deals with the nature of writing and the role of the author within society. It examines the issue of censorship and the pervasive sense of paranoia that underlies oppressive regimes.

## **DECLARATION**

This work contains no material which has been accepted for the award of any other degree or diploma in any other university or other tertiary institution and, to the best of my knowledge and belief, contains no material previously published or written by another person except where due reference has been made in the text.

I consent to this copy of my thesis, when deposited in the University Library, being made available for loan and photocopying, subject to the provisions of the Copyright Act 1968 and the embargo on the creative work.

Patricio Eduardo Muñoz

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Date:

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# Erasure

“Do not imagine you are on the earth, but in it.”

- Omar Khayyám