



THE DEPAUL HUMANITIES CENTER
“DISCARDS: THE FUTURE(S) OF THE BOOK AND LIBRARY” SERIES
PRESENTS

THE MONSTER AT THE END OF EVERY BOOK

STARRING LOVABLE, FURRY, OLD
H. PETER STEEVES

In the 1971 Little Golden Book, *The Monster at the End of this Book*, Sesame Street monster-Muppet Grover finds himself caught up in one of the finest existential, psychoanalytic, postmodern texts ever written—one that arguably stands beside those of Joyce and Nabakov, Beckett and Sartre, Freud and Derrida. *The Monster at the End of this Book* begins with Grover noticing the title of the work and recoiling in fear at the possibility that a monster lurks at the conclusion of a narrative in which he seems to be the protagonist. On each page, Grover tries to convince the reader to stop turning pages, to end the narrative flow and avoid the inevitable conclusion. What unfolds is not only a nuanced critique of twentieth-century culture, philosophy, and literary theory, but a commentary on what it means to be a book and a reader of books. In this participatory, multimedia lecture, we will explore how a book works and how “lovable, furry, old Grover” offers a lesson on what it means *to be* in general, as, little by little, inexorably and inevitably, we work our way to the end of the narrative and the analysis and the evening—to what necessarily and monstrously awaits us there.

Join Us!

Wednesday, May 6, 2015 • 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
come for the monsters • stay for the milk and cookie reception
DePaul Student Ctr., 120 • 2250 N. Sheffield Ave., Chicago