

For One

*a hermeneutics of desire
an ontology of ourselves
- Michel Foucault*

For one the great question was to know the ground of being;
for another, it was to know what one was saying
when one spoke the truth; for himself, how
(concerned as he was with words constructing worlds)
through love, true love, incorruptible love
one may be capable of moving toward truth and how
it was that so little truth is in truth
given that all we are ever given is now
when the true and the good are demonstrably the same:

- Characteristic choices repeated in stories but unavailable
- Rationalization as futile as ratiocination,
explication of images, themes, power games,
ideas and their correlative words and feelings
- The subtext of Western culture manifested
in acted-out madhouse fantasies of
an aristocratic pervert in a time of revolution
- Nuclear terrorism not traceable to
that infamous unfortunate proposition by Descartes
- The carceral order of things increasingly shaping our lives
- The history of sexuality shifting
an economy of bodies to one of desiring self
to discover, in desire, the truth of their being
- Greek ethics quite dead except for the classic
idea of a work of the self on the self
by means of which idea the Greek *ethos* of pleasure
(pleasure not sex the issue) may become capable
of reacquiring meaning, he said, quoting *Medea*:
Everything has disappeared but I still have myself.