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Nota di contenuto	1.Prologue i -- 2. Prologue ii -- 3. Prologue iii -- 4. Diderot, this is not a story -- 5. De maistre, voyage around my room -- 6. Machado de assis, posthumous memoirs of braz cubas -- 7. Breton, nadjia -- 8. Smart, by grand central station i sat down and wept -- 9. Markson, this is not a novel.
Sommario/riassunto	'As a fiction writer himself and a scholar who has thought about modernism and postmodernism from a theoretical perspective, Mark Axelrod is in a unique position to formulate a nuanced un-theory of the novel tackling this literary tradition since the inception of the genre in the 17th century up to our present, discombobulated days.' - Pablo Baler, Professor of Latin American Literature, California State University, Los Angeles, USA This book takes a closer look at the diversity of fiction writing from Diderot to Markson and by so doing call into question the notion of a singular "theory of fiction," especially in relation to the novel. Unlike Forster's approach to "Aspects of the Novel," which implied there is only one kind of novel to which there may be an aspect, this book deconstructs how one approach to studying something as protean as the novel cannot be accomplished. To that end, the text uses Diderot's This Is Not A Story (1772) and David Markson's This Is Not A Novel (2016) as a frame and imbedded within are essays on De Maistre's Voyage Around My Room (1829), Machado de Assis's Posthumous Memoirs Of Braz Cubas (1881), André Breton's Nadja (1928) and Elizabeth Smart's By Grand Central Station I

Sat Down And Wept (1945).

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