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## **Time Dilation & Temporal Dialectics in Flash Fiction**

“The concepts of *geometric mind* and *spirit of finesse* originate from Blaise Pascal, who used them to differentiate two ways of thinking: one of logic, linearity, the rigid, measurable and methodical— and the other of intuitive, holistic thought rooted in the fluid complexities of experience. In the context of colonialism, the *geometric mind* embodies the imposition of linear, capitalist time, regimenting life through schedules and progress narratives while the *spirit of finesse* aligns with more natural, experiential ways of understanding time: the cyclical, fragmented temporalities of resistance.

Flash Fiction, stressing brevity and narrative compression, offers space for Time Dilation — where past, present, and future coexist within a tight textual frame. This defiance of traditional linearity mirrors the *spirit of finesse* by embracing gaps, omissions, and juxtaposition of verb-tense. Flash Fiction therefore disrupts that colonial *geometric mind*, offering a reparative, recursive temporality that invites readers to engage in an intuitive, layered experience of narrative meaning. This alternative architecture of time, and therefore meaning-making, resists the predictability imposed by the colonial worldview, instead embracing a more fluid temporality that invites readers into a world of possibilities, a metamorphic way of knowing the future.

I conclude with a re-reading of the Hegelian *Thesis-Antithesis-Synthesis* from a temporal perspective where the *Past* is the thesis, representing stability and tradition; the *Future* becomes the antithesis, embodying potential and disruption; and the *Now* emerges as the synthesis, where all may be reconciled and transformed. Flash Fiction's ability to collapse time into a layered, immediate experience reflects this dialectic, synthesizing past and future into a present that disrupts linear temporality and opens new possibilities for meaning-making. This approach not only resists the colonial obsession with progress but also suggests a more inclusive, holistic way of knowing and being in time (—if only for the time being).”