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Interactive and Non-Linear Narrative

Assignment 4

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1) On the process of anticipation and retrospection, it has usually been the case that the author plays with our anticipation to keep a story interesting and has certain events occur or says something that makes the reader re-evaluate a certain previous point or event in a different frame of mind that is often set up by the author. Often times playing with our anticipation causes retrospection, which has happened to me often such as when there is an unexpected death of a major character.

Another aspect of retrospection that Iser's "The Reading Process" may not have touched on is what a reader gets by applying what he reads to his own life. For example, a thought provoking quote can have different meanings to different people, or even to the same person at different times when they try to apply it to their life. This occurs to a lot of people when they read the bible - I often hear people say that they always get something different from rereading a passage at different points in their life as if it's meaning has totally changed.

I can't really think of any specific examples, but that is probably because I haven't read very many books lately.