A Comparison of Six Editions of Michael Joyce's *afternoon, a story*

by Dene Grigar, PhD, Professor and Director, Electronic Literature Lab, Washington State University Vancouver

		The 3rd Edition 1990 Macintosh on floppy disk	The 4th Edition 1992 Macintosh on floppy disk	The 7th Edition 1994 Windows 3.1 on floppy disk	The 10th Edition 2001 Mac & Windows on CD-ROM	The 11th Edition 2007 Mac & Windows on CD-ROM	The 12h Edition 2016 Macintosh on USB Stick	Commentary
Introductory Components								
1	Folder Title	N/A	Displays "Eastgate Systems"	Displays "Afternoon"	Displays "afternoon folder"	Displays "afternoon"	Displays "afternoon, a story"	
2	Launcher Icon	Displays yoni logo (lowercase a in afternoon)	Displays yoni logo (capital A in afternoon)	Follows 4th Edition	Displays yoni logo, colored blue and red and is named "afternoon, a story". The folder also contains an Acrobat document entitled "Reading _afternoon, story_", and a "Free Coupon"	Displays Storyspace icon but is named "afternoon, a story". The folder also contains another folder with the Italian translation by Walter Vannini and the German translation by Doris Köhler and Rolf D. Krause	Follows the 11th Edition	In the 11th Edition, we see the shift from the yoni logo, which had been used since 1990, to the Storyspace logo
3	Title Screen	Displays Eastgate Systems, Inc. logo; the words, "afternoon in Readingspace 2.0d format"; and the date "1985-1989". Readers can choose between "Begin a new reading" and "Resume previous reading"	Changes the Title Screen to include Joyce's graphic, the publisher's contact information, and an excerpt from Robert Coover's positive review of the work. Also includes the comment: "Already a postmodern classic!" It follows the 3th Edition's choices to "Begin a new reading" and Resume previous reading"	Offers no Title Screen	Follows the 4th Edition	Follows the 7th Edition	Follows the 7th and 11th Editions	We start to see that the 12th Edition incorporates some of the functionality introduced by the 7th Edition.
4	Loading Screen	Offers two Loading Screens: one for spaces and another for links	Combines the two Loading Screens into one	Offers no Loading Screen	Follows the 4th Edition	Follows the 7th Edition	Follows the 7th and 11th Editions	The 12th Edition maintains the functionality introduced by the 7th and 11th Editions: single clicking instead of double-clicking and a condensed loading

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								experience with the elimination of the Title and Loading Screens
5	Start Screen	Presents Joyce's graphic, title, author's name, and publisher's contact information; copyrighted "1987 Michael Joyce" and refers to the work as published by "The Eastgate Press Edition 1990". The Tool Bar is positioned at the bottom of the interface	Follows in the style of the 3rd Edition, except that it is copyrighted "1987, 92 Michael Joyce" and refers to the work as published by "The Eastgate Press Edition 1992"	Follows the style of the 4th Edition, except it is copyrighted "1987,93" and items located on the Tool Bar in the Macintosh version have been moved into a menu at the top of the screen and renamed; other functions like "File", "Edit", "Bookmark", "Windows" and "Help"	Follows the 4th Edition	Follows in the style of the 3rd and 4th Editions, except that it lists the copyright as "1987, 92 Michael Joyce" and refers to it as the "Eastgate 6th Edition 2007"	Follows the 11th Edition, except that the Tool Bar is eliminated and replaced with a main menu where much of the functionality found previously in the Tool Bar has been moved	We see a marked difference in the interface between the floppy disks and CD-ROM edition for the Classic operating system (1987-2001) and the CD-ROM for MacOS x 10.5 onward and USB Stick editions (2007-2016). The latter, impacted by technological upgrades to software and hardware, presents an updated style for a contemporary audience. Readers get a choice between "directions" ("click yes") or to "start" ("press Return"). There is a menu at the top of the page that contains "cover" "<" and ">" followed by a button for "Yes" and a button for "No". It also combines both the Title Screen and Start Screen. The Tool Bar is retained in the 10th Edition though has changed slightly: like the Tool Bar from the 3rd and 4th Editions, it contains the "back arrow", "links icon", and the "Yes" and "No" button options; unlike the previous Tool Bars, this one offers an "H" or home button and eliminates the "printing" option.

								The Tool Bar is eliminated in the 12th Edition but there is a Menu Bar at the top of the interface that contains some of the elements of the Tool Bar, including the "back" button and the "yes" and "no" buttons. There is also the main menu at the top of the screen that allows readers to "Browse Links" from the "View" item. The 12th Edition is reminiscent of Windows approach to navigation. Additionally, 12th Edition maintains the clean interface of the 11th Edition but incorporates elements from the 7th such as the elimination of the Tool Bar, which had been a staple feature of all editions created for the Macintosh platform
Reading Path #1								
	Pressing the Return key	Goes to the lexia, "begin". It prompts readers to respond to the question, "Do you want to hear about it?"	Follows the 3rd Edition	Follows the 3rd and 4th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, and 7th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, and 10th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, 10th and 11th Editions	To interact with the work in the 3rd and 4th Editions, readers must double-click on a word or phrase; however, the impact of the World Wide Web had by the time of the 10th Edition made clicking once on a link the norm. Thus, double-clicking shifts to a single click in the 10th and 11th Editions
	Pressing the Return Key	Takes readers to the lexia, "I	Follows the 3rd Edition	Deviates from the 3rd and 4th Editions	Follows the 3rd and 4th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, and 10th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 10th and 11th Editions	

		"want to say", which contains the notable line: "I want to say I may have seen my son die this morning."		in that to go back to the previous page, readers need to go to Navigate in the Menu and choose "Previous page . . . Backspace" in the dropdown menu			
	Clicking, instead, on "Yes"	Takes readers to the lexia, "yes"	Follows the 3rd Edition	Deviates from the 3rd and 4th Editions in that the "yes" and "no" options are eliminated. To follow the hyperlink from "yes", readers need to go to Storyspace in the Menu to "Browse Links". "yes" is listed as a "Path" with a "Destination" of "yes" with a "Guard Field" of "yeslhear". Readers choose "yes" and then click on "Follow Link"	Follows the 3rd and 4th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 10th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 10th and 11th Editions	The migration to the Windows operating system eliminated the "Yes" and "No" options on the interface, which resulted in the obfuscation of the possible paths readers could take. How would readers know how to answer the question without seeing the multiple possibilities?
	Clicking on "Lolly"	Takes readers to the lexia, "Lolly"	Follows the 3rd Edition	Follows the 3rd and 4th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, and 7th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, and 10th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, 10th and 11th Editions	
	Clicking on "Lolita"	Takes readers to the lexia, "Lolly2"	Follows the 3rd Edition	Follows the 3rd and 4th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, and 7th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, and 10th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, 10th and 11th Editions	
	Clicking on "mothers"	Takes readers to the lexia, "Lolly3"	Follows the 3rd Edition	Follows the 3rd and 4th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, and 7th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, and 10th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, 10th and 11th Editions	
	Clicking on "friends"	Takes readers to the lexia, "Wouldn't you"	Follows the 3rd Edition	Follows the 3rd and 4th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, and 7th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, and 10th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, 10th and 11th Editions	
	Clicking on "glasses"	Takes readers to the lexia, "Dora"	Follows the 3rd Edition	Follows the 3rd and 4th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, and 7th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, and 10th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, 10th and 11th Editions	
	Clicking on "Zabriskie Point"	Takes readers to the lexia, "three"	Follows the 3rd Edition	Follows the 3rd and 4th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, and 7th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, and 10th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, 10th and 11th Editions	
	Clicking on "the other's wife"	Takes readers to the lexia, "Lolly4" This lexia contains two hyperlinks,	Follows the 3rd Edition	Deviates from the 3rd and 4th Editions in that all words go to the lexia, "Faulkner", and is missing the hyperlinked word, "poet". Readers can still follow the links	Follows the 3rd and 4th Editions	Follows the 7th Edition	Follows the 7th and 11th Editions	We start to see the way in which migration has affected the work. The move from the Macintosh to the Windows platform introduces an error in

		which are reflected in the "links" option on the Tool Bar: the word "poet" goes to the lexia, "published poet"; all other words in the lexia takes readers to the lexia, "Faulkner". It is also important to note that the names of the hyperlinked words in the lexia are not always the same as the hyperlinked word in the "links" option— "poet", for example, is listed as "poetess" in the "links" option on the Tool Bar		through the paths mode.				the linking structure. The error is not found in the three editions created for the Classic operating system—that is, the 3rd, 4rd, and 10th—but shows up in the 11th and 12th , both of which run on the MacOS X 10.5 or higher systems. That said, in the 7th and 11th Editions onward readers can still access the missing link through the "Browse Links" function in the the main menu; the 12th (and the 13th). Readers of the 12th Edition accustomed to the Tool Bar found in previous Macintosh editions of the work may not have readily known to go to the main menu to browse links

An example of a lost link |
| | Clicking on "husband" | Takes readers to the lexia, "Faulkner" | Follows the 3rd Edition | Follows the 3rd and 4th Editions | Follows the 3rd, 4th, and 7th Editions | Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, and 10th Editions | Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, 10th and 11th Editions | |
| | Clicking on "smile" | Takes readers to the lexia, "she wasn't sure".

This lexia contains a total of four hyperlinks. Three are hyperlinked words/phrases | Follows the 3rd Edition | Follows the 3rd and 4th Editions | Follows the 3rd, 4th, and 7th Editions | Deviates from the 3rd, 4th, and 7th Editions. It shows all three hyperlinked words in the "links" option on the Tool Bar, but "Wert's contention" and "devil's titty" go to "remoulade" instead of "yes2" and "Olympia", | Deviates from the 3rd, 4th, 7th, 10th and 11th Editions in that all of the words in the lexia go to "remoulade" | In the migration from the Classic operating system results in a variation: The hyperlinks listed in the "links" option on the Tool Bar are lost; in the migration from the CD-ROM to USB Stick another error is introduced: All words are hyperlinked to the |

		found in the "links" option on the Tool Bar: "Wert's contention" goes to "yes 2", "Devil's titty" goes to "Olympia"; and "Lolly" goes to "remoulade". The 4th is the word, "nipple", hyperlinked in the lexia, which takes readers to the lexia, "Olympia"				respectively. "nipple" does go to the lexia, "Olympia", like the 3rd and 4th Editions		same word, "remoulade" An example of dead and wrong links
	Clicking on "She"	Takes readers to the lexia, "remoulade" This lexia lists four hyperlinked words and phrases in the "links" option on the Tool Bar; three of these are also hyperlinked words in the lexia	Follows the 3rd Edition	Deviates from 3rd and 4th Editions. It shows all four hyperlinked words and phrases in the paths mode in the Storyspace item in the menu, but all words in the lexia are hyperlinked to the same lexia, "out law"	Follows the 3rd and 4th Editions	Follows the 7th Edition	Follows the 7th and 11th Editions	In the migration from the Macintosh Classic operating system to the Windows platform hyperlinks were lost. This error was maintained in the 11th and 12th Editions. Readers of the 12th Edition accustomed to the Tool Bar found in previous Macintosh editions of the work may not have readily known to go to the main menu to browse links
	Clicking on "father"	Takes readers to the lexia, "out law"	Follows the 3rd Edition	Follows the 3rd and 4th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, and 7th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, and 10th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, 10th and 11th Editions	
	Clicking on "Lolly"	Takes readers to the lexia, "pillars"	Follows the 3rd Edition	Follows the 3rd and 4th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, and 7th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, and 10th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, 10th and 11th Editions	
	Clicking on "memory"	Takes readers to the lexia, "Gunslinger"	Follows the 3rd Edition	Follows the 3rd and 4th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, and 7th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, and 10th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, 10th and 11th Editions	
	Clicking on "rifle"	Takes readers to the lexia,	Follows the 3rd Edition	Follows the 3rd and 4th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, and 7th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, and 10th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, 10th and 11th Editions	

		"strawberries"						
	Clicking on "children"	Takes readers to the lexia, "flowers in his hair" This lexia contains three hyperlinked words and phrases in the "links" option on the Tool Bar— "Alzheimer's" goes to "the", "Zu Reek" goes to "t"; and "Lolly" goes to "Canterbury Tales". All of these also appear as hyperlinks in the lexia, though "Lolly" shifting to "I" in the lexia	Follows the 3rd Edition	Follows the 3rd and 4th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, and 7th Editions	Deviates from the 3rd, 4th, 7th and 10th Editions in that "Alzheimer's" goes to the lexia, "Canterbury Tales" instead of "the" though readers can still access the links via the "links" option in the Tool Bar	Deviates from the 3rd, 4th, 7th, 10th and 11th Editions in that all words in the lexia go to the lexia, "Canterbury Tales.	The migration to the USB Stick resulted in the loss of hyperlinks to all but one lexia, "Canterbury Tales". Readers of the 12th Edition accustomed to the Tool Bar found in previous Macintosh editions of the work may not have readily known to go to the main menu to browse links An example of a missing link.
	Clicking on "Wharton"	Takes readers to the lexia, "Canterbury Tales" There are four hyperlinks listed in the "links" option on the Tool Bar: "P's story" goes to "me*", "S's story" goes to "Horrors of Acron 7", "N's story" goes to "Nausicaa9"; and "secret Lolly2" goes	Follows the 3rd Edition	Deviates from the 3rd and 4th Editions Only two hyperlinks function: "what's" goes to "Horrors of Acron 7" and "Nausicaa" goes to "Nausicaa9"	Follows the 3rd and 4th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, and 10th Editions	Deviates from the 3rd, 4th, 7th, 10th and 11th Editions in that only "what's" is hyperlinked. All other words in the lexia are dead links	In the migration from Macintosh to Windows an error was introduced. Another was introduced with the migration from CD-ROM to USB Stick, two hyperlinks available in the "links" option on the Tool Bar were lost; additionally, readers of the 12th Edition accustomed to the Tool Bar found in previous Macintosh editions of the work may not have readily known to go to the main menu to browse links

		to "I call Lolly". Note that unlike the other paths listed in the Tool Bar, this one has no word in the lexia to click to get from "secret Lolly2" to "I call Lolly". The only way to follow this path is through the Tool Bar						An example of dead links
	Clicking on "what's"	Takes readers to the lexia, "Horrors of Acron 7"	Follows the 3rd Edition	Follows the 3rd and 4th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, and 7th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, and 10th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, 10th and 11th Editions	
	Clicking on the "banger"	Takes readers to the lexia, "The Friar's Eye"	Follows the 3rd Edition	Follows the 3rd and 4th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, and 7th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, and 10th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, 10th and 11th Editions	
	Clicking on the "crucifix"	Takes readers to the lexia, "work in progress"	Follows the 3rd Edition	Follows the 3rd and 4th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, and 7th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, and 10th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, 10th and 11th Editions	
	Clicking on "simple"	Takes readers back to the 1st lexia readers encountered, "begin"	Follows the 3rd Edition	Follows the 3rd and 4th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, and 7th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, and 10th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, 10th and 11th Editions	
	Clicking on "poetry"	Takes readers to the lexia, "poetry"	Follows the 3rd Edition	Follows the 3rd and 4th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, and 7th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, and 10th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, 10th and 11th Editions	
	Clicking on "smile"	Takes readers to the lexia, "she" There are three hyperlinked words and phrases in the "links" option on the Tool	Follows the 3rd Edition	Follows the 3rd and 4th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, and 7th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, and 10th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, 10th and 11th Editions	

		Bar: "yes" goes to "her hand", "her name" goes to "Nausicaa2", and "poetry" goes to "everything rhymes". All words in the lexia however, are hyperlinked to the lexia, "everything rhymes"						
	Clicking on "Nausicaa"	Takes readers to the lexia, "everything rhymes" This lexia contains four hyperlinks in the Path in the Tool Bar: "brown" goes to "brown"; "her touch" goes to "white dress"; "ceremony" goes to "I love"; and "f/b" goes to "I had a wife". The lexia contains two hyperlinks: the word "brown" goes to "brown", but all other words go to "I had a wife"	Follows the 3rd Edition	Follows the 3rd and 4th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, and 7th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, and 10th Editions	Deviates from the other editions in that all words, including "brown", go to "I had a wife"	In the migration from CD-ROM to USB Stick Edition, the second hyperlinked word in the lexia was lost, making the link go to the wrong lexia. Additionally, readers of the 12th Edition accustomed to the Tool Bar found in previous Macintosh editions of the work may not have readily known to go to the main menu to browse links
	Clicking on "ice"	Takes readers to the lexia, "I had a wife"	Follows the 3rd Edition	Follows the 3rd and 4th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, and 7th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, and 10th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, 10th and 11th Editions	
	Clicking on	Takes readers	Follows the 3rd Edition	Follows the 3rd and 4th	Follows the 3rd, 4th, and	Follows the 3rd, 4th,	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th,	

	"wife"	to the lexia, "white dress"		Editions	7th Editions	7th, and 10th Editions	10th and 11th Editions	
	Clicking on "moon"	Takes readers to the lexia, "intimate promises"	Follows the 3rd Edition	Follows the 3rd and 4th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, and 7th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, and 10th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, 10th and 11th Editions	
	Clicking on "lovers"	Takes readers to the lexia, "speak memory"	Follows the 3rd Edition	Follows the 3rd and 4th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, and 7th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, and 10th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, 10th and 11th Editions	
	Clicking on "machines"	Takes readers to the lexia, "winter"	Follows the 3rd Edition	Follows the 3rd and 4th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, and 7th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, and 10th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, 10th and 11th Editions	
	Clicking on "winter"	Takes readers to the lexia, "poetry"	Follows the 3rd Edition	Follows the 3rd and 4th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, and 7th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, and 10th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, 10th and 11th Editions	
	Clicking on "mastodon"	Takes readers to the lexia, "winter2"	Follows the 3rd Edition	Follows the 3rd and 4th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, and 7th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, and 10th Editions	Follows the 3rd, 4th, 7th, 10th and 11th Editions	