

Discussion Questions #3

for:

[All You Need Is Links](#) by Gordon Brander (2022)
[Octavia Butler & Samuel Delany in conversation at MIT](#) (1998)
[Kameelah Janan Rasheed on research and archiving](#) (2017)

In your small group, chat about the readings.
Write on the back of this paper your group's answers.

- (1) What were the common themes?
- (2) What is the most important thing you took away from these readings (or one of these readings)?
- (3) Do any of these readings inspire you to make / do something? If so, what is it?

“I think about my work as an open circuit, where whenever I create work it's iterative, and whenever I create work there's always a possibility of me not necessarily knowing it connects to everything else that I've made.” — Kameelah Janan Rasheed

“All texts, in a sense, are hypertext. You come to a word you don't understand, so you look it up in the dictionary. You read a passage and you stop and you think about another book; you may even put it down and go get another book off your bookshelf and read something about something else. Texts are not linear. Texts are multiple and for anybody who really reads and enjoys reading, it is an interactive process.” — Samuel Delany

“I generally have four or five books open around the house--I live alone; I can do this--and they are not books on the same subject. They don't relate to each other in any particular way, and the ideas they present bounce off one another. And I like this effect. I also listen to audio-books, and I'll go out for my morning walk with tapes from two very different audio-books, and let those ideas bounce off each other, simmer, reproduce in some odd way, so that I come up with ideas that I might not have come up with if I had simply stuck to one book until I was done with it and then gone and picked up another. I'm using a kind of primitive hypertext.” — Octavia Butler

“Simple rules produce complex behavior. Complex rules produce stupid behavior.” — John Gall

“It is my belief that this new ability to represent ideas in the fullness of their interconnections will lead to easier and better writing, easier and better learning, and a far greater ability to share and communicate the interconnections among tomorrows ideas and problems. Hypertext can represent all the interconnections an author can think of, and compound hypertext can represent all the interconnections *many* authors can think of, as we shall see.” — Ted Nelson

“A surprising number of other features can be expressed in terms of links.” — Gordon Brander