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Título: Paul de Man Deconstruction And The Critique Of Aesthetic Ideology

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In the wake of the recent discovery of de Man's contributions to a Nazi-sponsored Belgian newspaper during 1940-41, Norris's study is timely, persuasive, and well informed. He deals with de Man's early lapse but does not allow it to overshadow the analysis of his writings from the mid-1950s until his death in 1983. By then de Man had become, arguably, the most influential academic literary critic in this country. Norris sees the charge that de Man's thought is disabled by existential nostalgia and an avoidance of political engagement as a partial and skewed assessment. He maintains, in fact, that de Man's unorthodox but closely reasoned notion of rhetoric can provide a powerful safeguard against ideological mystification. Alexander Gelley, Univ. of California, Irvine