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***Logomachia* in E. L. Doctorow's *Welcome to Hard Times***

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**Abstract**

E. L. Doctorow's *Welcome to Hard Times* (1960) remains an outstanding example of the New Western or Post-Western launched in the 1960s. As such, it blends both Western and metafictional elements into a more sustainable fictional and mythical entity to reveal an alternative and more intriguing Western history (lowercase). Above all, it revitalizes the "literature of exhaustion" and "silence," as John Barth and Ihab Hassan respectively labelled it in the 1960s by creating real fiction out of the remnants of the out-dated western genre (1997 & 1995). Furthermore, Doctorow questions the verity of the classic Western due to the incredulity towards the means of representation such as language, time, memory, and narrative itself thus presenting an exemplary *logomachia* in the eve of postmodern era.

**Keywords:** *New Western, logomachia, E.L. Doctorow, "Welcome to Hard Times"*