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For Deborah

I can't help but dream about a kind of criticism that would try not to judge but to bring an oeuvre, a book, a sentence, an idea to life; it would light fires, watch the grass grow, listen to the wind, and catch the sea foam in the breeze and scatter it. It would multiply not judgments but signs of existence; it would summon them, drag them from their sleep. Perhaps it would invent them sometimes—all the better. . . . It would not be sovereign or dressed in red. It would bear the lightning of possible storms.

—Michel Foucault, “The Masked Philosopher”