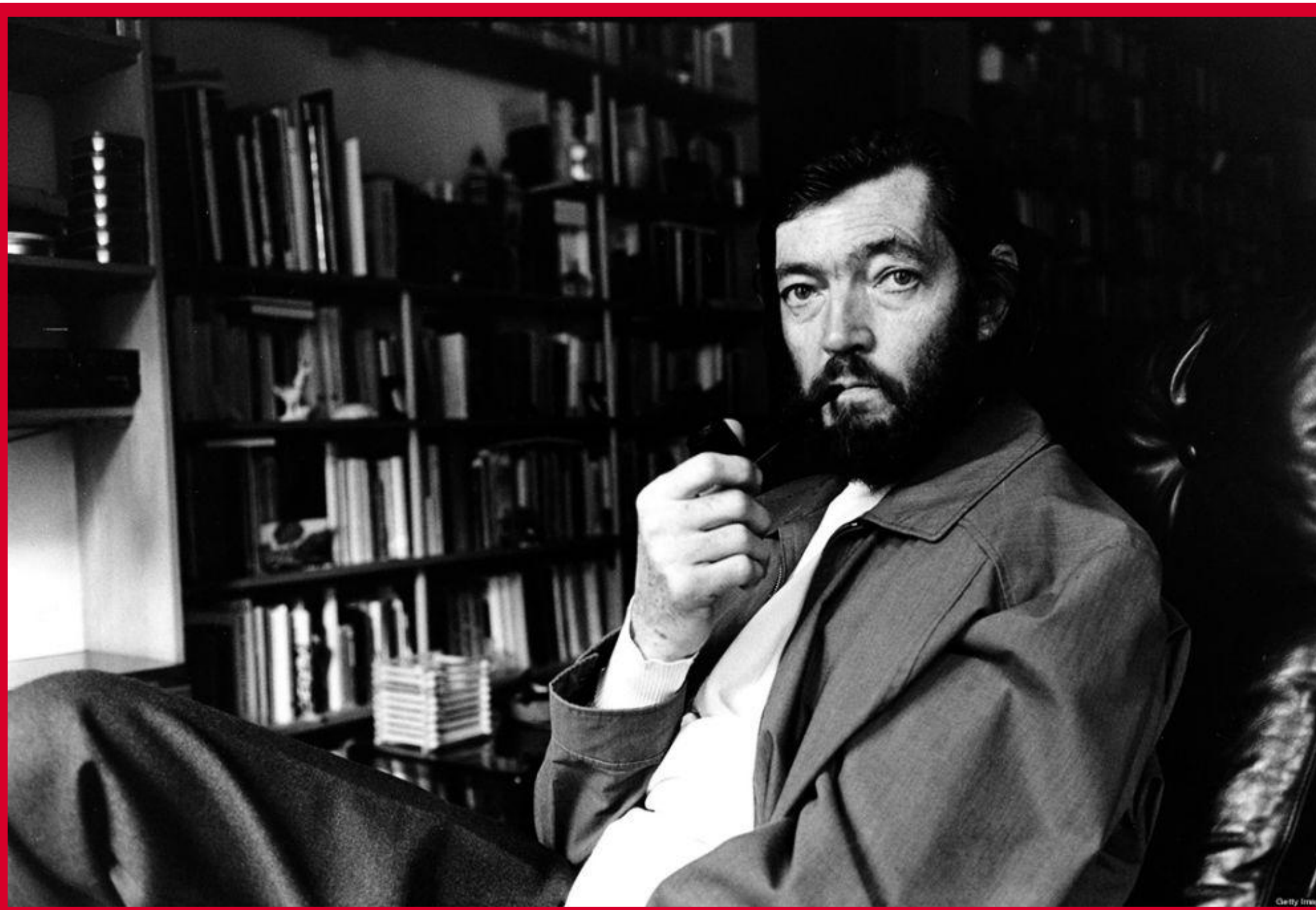


# Between Accusation and Ambiguity: Political Commitment and Literary Form in Rodolfo Walsh and Julio Cortázar

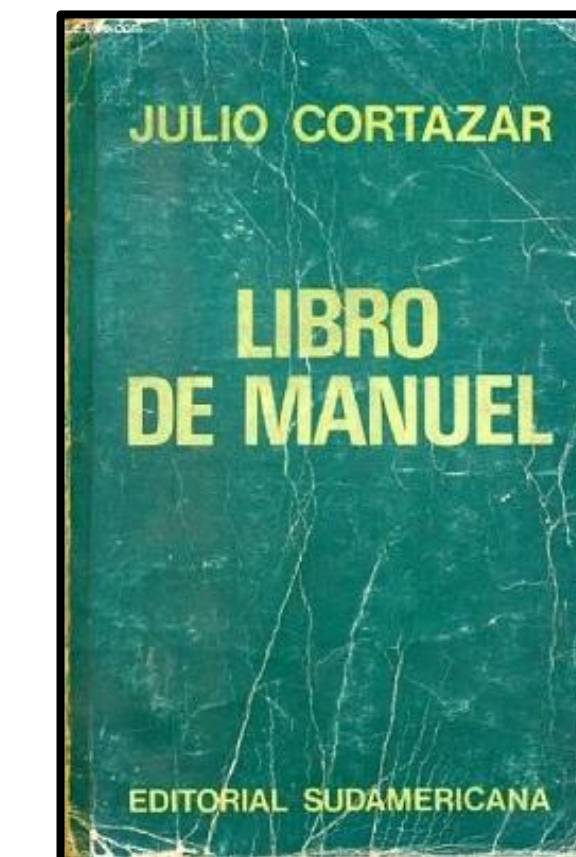
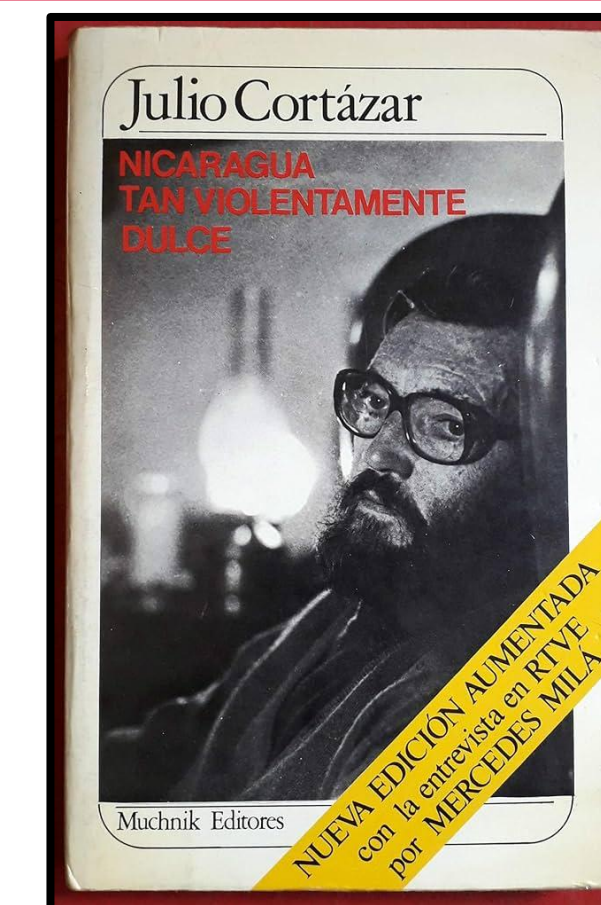
Author: Syd Fryer



**Introduction:** During the political repression of 20th-century Latin America, writers faced increasing pressure to respond to authoritarian violence and revolutionary movements. Intellectuals were often expected to demonstrate political commitment, raising an important question: what role should literature play in times of crisis? This project examines how Argentine writers Rodolfo Walsh and Julio Cortázar responded differently to these pressures and what their work reveals about the relationship between literature and political responsibility.



**Thesis:** Walsh and Cortázar represent two distinct models of politically committed literature. Walsh uses writing as **direct political accusation through testimony and documentation**, while Cortázar uses **formal experimentation and ambiguity to resist authoritarian narratives**. Together, their work shows that **literature can function both as political action and as critical resistance**.



## Key Arguments:

- **Walsh: Literature as Political Action**
  - *Operación masacre* exposes state violence through investigation
  - "*Carta abierta*" represents direct literary accusation
  - Literature becomes political intervention
- **Cortázar: Literature as Formal Resistance**
  - Uses fragmentation and ambiguity as resistance
  - Rejects authoritarian certainty through form
  - Literature remains a space for critical questioning
- **Commitment vs. Autonomy**
  - Latin American writers faced pressure to politicize
  - Some chose direct engagement, others artistic independence
  - Politically committed literature can take multiple forms

## References:

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 Rock, David. *Authoritarian Argentina*.  
 Poggioli, Renato. *The Theory of the Avant-Garde*.  
 Paz, Octavio. *Los hijos del limo*.