



Ni tout à fait sérieuse, ni tout à fait comique

À propos de la représentation de la perversion dans le chapitre IX

Publication type: Journal article

Journal: [À rebours, attraction-désastre, Tome I. Attraction](#)

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Abstract: The fact that Des Esseintes is a pervert, in the sexual sense, appears as early as the Notice. The representation of the duke is itself perverse as well: ironic, parodic, grotesque, burlesque. Chapter nine, which relates his adventure with Miss Urania, reveals this sexual and textual perversion. If the erotic play between the two lovers is doomed to failure, the perversion being mostly cerebral, Huysmans' text shows an exuberant vitality and ludism that does not invalidate the existential and spiritual crisis of the duke.

Pages: 171 to 191

Journal: [Journal of Modern Literature](#)

Series: [Joris-Karl Huysmans](#), n° 5

CLIL theme: 4027 -- SCIENCES HUMAINES ET SOCIALES, LETTRES -- Lettres et Sciences du langage -- Lettres -- Etudes littéraires générales et thématiques

EAN: 9782406069140

ISBN: 978-2-406-06914-0

ISSN: 0035-2136

DOI: 10.15122/isbn.978-2-406-06914-0.p.0171

Publisher: Classiques Garnier

Online publication: 02-09-2018

Periodicity: Monthly

Language: French

[Display online](#)