



Portraits of priestphobia in Stendhal's fiction

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Abstract: The Nineteenth century can be considered the flagship century of anticlericalism and its corollary, priestphobia. The literature of the time, and particularly that of the Restoration, mirrors this hostility. The most convincing example is undoubtedly that of Stendhal, whose fictional work is full of portraits of bad priests, constructed according to two different approaches: either they exude absolute ugliness, in a perfect concordance between physical and moral; or they expose themselves in discordance, physical beauty dangerously masking moral ugliness.

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