



“To speak frankly”

The Maldoror-Mervyn correspondence

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Abstract: This article analyzes the correspondence between Mervyn and Maldoror, which takes place in song VI. Maldoror writes a letter to Mervyn to arrange a meeting; the latter refuses at first, but gradually yields, announcing his own death, and the end of the Chants. The seductive relationship that develops between the two protagonists is a mise-en-abyme between the narrator and the reader: the narrator scares, seduces, and provokes his reader, as Maldoror seduces and provokes Mervyn

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