



Bad Morality and Bad Style

Genlis Judge of Staël in *La Femme philosophe*

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Author: Sicco (Debora)

Abstract: This article, based on Genlis' novel *La femme philosophe*, shows how Germaine de Staël's relationship with philosophy was problematic, and how she also served as an exemplary target, since she was caricatured as Gertrude. In particular, an investigation of Genlis' references to Staël's works reveals the major issues at stake in her polemic: love, literary ambition, and suicide.

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