



## Les impasses du délaissement

L'histoire de Tervire dans *La Vie de Marianne*

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Collective work: [Enfants perdus, enfants trouvés. Dire l'abandon en Europe du XVI<sup>e</sup> au XVIII<sup>e</sup> siècle](#)

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Abstract: Marivaux devotes the last three parts of *Vie de Marianne* (1742) to the grey, dark story of Tervire : the young provincial aristocrat, who has become a nun, retraces her miserable childhood and dwells upon the experience of having been abandoned by her mother, who remarried and became wealthy. This has annihilated in Tervire a potential for desire and love, and conjures up a hellish vision of family relations in which parents seem to curse their children with a death wish. Marivaux offers his readers an unrivalled analysis of psychological distress through this portrayal in reverse of *Marianne*, which does not seek to seduce his readers.

Pages: 333 to 344

Collection: [Encounters](#), n° 103

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