



“Our minds were agreeably entertained”

Reflections on the structure of *The Fifth Book*

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Author: Renner (Bernd)

Abstract: Beyond the rewriting of certain episodes from the two series of drafts that comprise *The Fifth Book*, the following question has often been considered: What use would Rabelais potentially have made of these pages if he had written a genuine “Fifth Book”? Using the example of a short episode—Bacchus’s conquest of the Indians and its Lucianist intertext (CL, XXXVIII–XLII)—, this contribution proposes a review of this subject, factoring in the Rabelaisian method of using and “digesting” his sources in order to open up the possibility of a reevaluation of the initial project.

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