

Masculine Modes and Moods in Mircea Eliade's *Isabel and the Devil's Waters*

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This article examines Mircea Eliade's first published novel, *Isabel and the Devil's Waters*, from a feminist perspective. The narrator of *Isabel*, described as an individual in search of authenticity, is a victim of his machist culture. Although he mistreats women, behavior which he blames on a devil, this character is depicted with affection in Eliade's anti-Bildungsroman. This novel left an indelible mark on the aesthetic structuring of gender promoting "masculine" modes unavailable to women, amplifying gender divisions regarding the exercise of aesthetic taste, and relegating sensibility to the female sex in order to deprecate it. [Article copies available for a fee from The Transformative Studies Institute. E-mail address: journal@transformativestudies.org Website: <http://www.transformativestudies.org> ©2013 by The Transformative Studies Institute. All rights reserved.]

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Alas! the love of women! it is known
To be a lovely and fearful thing;
For all of theirs upon that die is thrown,
And if 'tis lost, life hath no more to bring
To them but mockeries of the past alone,

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