



Thesis: "By studying 'A Little Girl Tells a Story to a Lady' in terms of its Modern and Gothic aspects, we can understand the portrayal of the human mind between literary movements in a way that will surpass the arbitrary labeling of time periods and show the complex singularity of the human condition."

John Paul Riquelme:
"like the museum, the zoo, and the encyclopedia, the library represents a categorizing tendency within the Western conception of knowledge that works to maintain sanity and order, or an impression of sanity and order."

A Little Girl:
"the walls were covered with shelves, and in the shelves were heavy books, with red morocco bindings, and on the back of each was stamped a coat of arms, very intricate and oppressive"

Elizabeth MacAndrew:
"Settings turn out to be a part of characterization."
"Building and owner are one in the same."

A Little Girl:
"...no human sound was between them, and everything was in terrible disorder."

Irving Malin:
"The writers of the new American Gothic are aware of tensions between the ego and the super-ego, self and society; they study the field of psychological conflict."

A Little Girl:
"She was scattered and distraught, as at night, when I heard her walking in her room."



The Portrayal of the Mind: The Modern and Gothic in Djuna Barnes

Heather De Bel
Ramapo College of New Jersey, Mahwah, NJ, 07430



Final Note (Riquelme): There are mad characters and haunted spaces in Virginia Woolf's narratives (Mrs. Dalloway ; "A Haunted House", & "The Death of the Moth." Toni Morrison's ghosts, as in Beloved, invite comparisons with earlier emanations in Gothic writings. In a modernist transformation of the works of Poe and other Gothic precursors, one of William Faulkner's most memorable novels, Absalom! Absalom!, concerns the fall of a house. In The Waste Land , T. S. Eliot alludes memorably to Dracula in the figure of the bats crawling upside-down down a wall.

E.F Bleiler:
"It was not simply a mysterious, supernatural double; instead it was associated with the strange phenomena of the mind, with personality fragments, with multiple personalities...and with the emergence of the unconscious mind."

A Little Girl:
"I walked down ...where all the great German emperors statues are that look like little girls and widows"

