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The Hélène Cixous Reader
The concept of Ecriture Feminine in Helene Cixous's "The Laugh of the Medusa"
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Myth-O-Mania: Say Cheese, Medusa! Nov 12 2021 In Greek mythology, Medusa was a Gorgon a winged monster with snakes for hair. Anyone who looked at her was instantly turned to stone. But she wasn't born that way. Not even close. Athena was so jealous of Medusa's beauty that she cursed her. Zeus changed the story to make his son, Perseus, look good. Hades is here to set the record straight on Perseus, Medusa, and everything in between.

Stand-up Comedy in Theory, Or, Abjection in America Aug 29 2020 A cultural theory of stand-up comedy.

Hélène Cixous, Rootprints Jan 22 2020 This first English translation of Cixous' book, *Photos de Racine*, explores Cixous' development as a writer and intellectual. A must for students and scholars of French feminist theory, gender studies and literary theory.
Bitch Dec 13 2021 From the author of the bestselling *Prozac Nation* comes one of the most entertaining feminist manifestos ever written. In five brilliant extended essays, she links the lives of women as demanding and disparate as Amy Fisher, Hillary Clinton, Margaux Hemingway, and Nicole Brown Simpson. Wurtzel gives voice to those women

whose lives have been misunderstood, who have been dismissed for their beauty, their madness, their youth. *Bitch* is a brilliant tract on the history of manipulative female behavior. By looking at women who derive their power from their sexuality, Wurtzel offers a trenchant cultural critique of contemporary gender relations. Beginning with Delilah, the first woman to supposedly bring a great man down (latter-day Delilahs include Yoko Ono, Pam Smart, Bess Myerson), Wurtzel finds many biblical counterparts to the men and women in today's headlines. She finds in the story of Amy Fisher the tragic plight of all Lolitas, our thirst for their brief and intense flame. She connects Hemingway's tragic suicide to those of Sylvia Plath, Edie Sedgwick, and Marilyn Monroe, women whose beauty was an end, ultimately, in itself. Wurtzel, writing about the wife/mistress dichotomy, explains how some women are anointed as wife material, while others are relegated to the role of mistress. She takes to task the double standard imposed on women, the cultural insistence on goodness and society's complete obsession with badness: what's a girl to do? Let's face it, if women were any real threat to male power, "Jennifer Flowers would be sitting behind the desk of the Oval Office," writes

Wurtzel, "and Bill Clinton would be a lounge singer in the Excelsior Hotel in Little Rock." *Bitch* tells a tale both celebratory and cautionary as Wurtzel catalogs some of the most infamous women in history, defending their outsize desires, describing their exquisite loneliness, championing their take-no-prisoners approach to life and to love. Whether writing about Courtney Love, Sally Hemings, Bathsheba, Kimba Wood, Sharon Stone, Princess Di--or waxing eloquent on the hideous success of *The Rules*, the evil that is *The Bridges of Madison County*, the twisted logic of *You'll Never Make Love in This Town Again*--Wurtzel is back with a bitchography that cuts to the core. In prose both blistering and brilliant, *Bitch* is a treatise on the nature of desperate sexual manipulation and a triumph of pussy power.

"Coming to Writing" and Other Essays Jul 20 2022 This collection presents six essays by one of France's most remarkable contemporary authors. A notoriously playful stylist, here Hélène Cixous explores how the problematics of the sexes--viewed as a paradigm for all difference, which is the organizing principle behind identity and meaning--manifest themselves, write themselves, in texts. These superb translations do full justice to Cixous's prose, to its songlike flow and allusive brilliance.

Laughter May 18 2022 Uncovering an archive of laughter, from the forbidden giggle to the explosive guffaw. Most of our theories of

laughter are not concerned with laughter. Rather, their focus is the laughable object, whether conceived of as the comic, the humorous, jokes, the grotesque, the ridiculous, or the ludicrous. In *Laughter*, Anca Parvulescu proposes a return to the materiality of the burst of laughter itself. She sets out to uncover an archive of laughter, inviting us to follow its rhythms and listen to its tones. Historically, laughter--especially the passionate burst of laughter--has often been a faux pas. Manuals for conduct, abetted by philosophical treatises and literary and visual texts, warned against it, offering special injunctions to ladies to avoid jollity that was too boisterous. Returning laughter to the history of the passions, Parvulescu anchors it at the point where the history of the grimacing face meets the history of noise. In the civilizing process that leads to laughter's "falling into disrepute," as Nietzsche famously put it, we can see the formless, contorted face in laughter being slowly corrected into a calm, social smile. How did the twentieth century laugh? Parvulescu points to a gallery of twentieth-century laughs and friends of laughter, arguing that it is through Georges Bataille that the century laughed its most distinct laugh. In Bataille's wake, laughter becomes the passion at the heart of poststructuralism. Looking back at the century from this vantage point, Parvulescu revisits four of its most challenging projects:

modernism, the philosophical avant-gardes, feminism, and cinema. The result is an overview of the twentieth century as seen through the laughs that burst at some of its most convoluted junctures.

The World's Wife Feb 03 2021 The voices of Mrs. Midas, Queen Kong, and Frau Freud, to say nothing of the Devil's wife herself, startle us with their wit, imagination, and incisiveness in this collection of poems written from the perspectives of the wives of famous--and infamous--male personages. Reprint.

Constellations Jun 26 2020 *Shortlisted for the Rathbones Folio Prize 2020* *Winner of non-fiction book of the year at the Irish Book Awards* An extraordinarily intimate book of essays that chart the experiences that have made Sinéad Gleeson the woman and the writer she is today, for readers of *The Last Act of Love* and *I Am, I Am, I Am*. 'Utterly magnificent. Raw, thought-provoking and galvanising; this is a book every woman should read.' - Eimear McBride, author of *A Girl Is a Half-formed Thing*. I have come to think of all the metal in my body as artificial stars, glistening beneath the skin, a constellation of old and new metal. A map, a tracing of connections and a guide to looking at things from different angles. How do you tell the story of a life in a body, as it goes through sickness, health, motherhood? How do you tell that story when you are not just a woman but a woman in Ireland? In the powerful and daring essays in *Constellations*

Sinéad Gleeson does that very thing. All of life is within these pages, from birth to first love, pregnancy to motherhood, terrifying sickness, old age and loss to death itself. Throughout this wide-ranging collection she also turns her restless eye outwards delving into work, art and our very ways of seeing. In the tradition of some of our finest life writers, and yet still in her own spirited, generous voice, Sinéad takes us on a journey that is both uniquely personal and yet universal in its resonance. Here is the fierce joy and pain of being alive. 'Breathtaking and sublime.' - Nina Stibbe 'Absolutely extraordinary and life-enhancing.' - Daisy Buchanan, author of *How to be Grown-up*.

"Writing in White Ink" - Textual strategies of resistance in Zora Neale Hurston's "Their Eyes Were Watching God" and Alice Walker's "The Color Purple"

Sep 17 2019 Diploma Thesis from the year 2007 in the subject American Studies - Literature, grade: 5.5, University of Basel (Englisches Seminar), course: Seminar Afro American Writing, 120 entries in the bibliography, language: English, abstract: The first book ever published by an Afro-American, was written by a woman. Since the publication of Phillis Wheatley's *Poems on Various Subjects*, however, the literary discourse in African American literature has been dominated by male writers. Similar to white literature, Afro-American women had only a marginal position in the creation of their writing. At the

beginning of the last century, Virginia Woolf wrote about the relationship between woman and fiction in *A Room Of One's Own*: "Imaginatively she is of the highest importance; practically she is completely insignificant. She pervades poetry from cover to cover; she is all but absent from history" (66). This practical exclusion from the literary process, or as *Abbandonato* puts it, "female silencing" (1107), has provoked the emergence of an Afro-American feminist literature. In the last century, writers such as Nella Larsen, Maya Angelou and Toni Morrison, just to name a few, started to write against the grain of dominant racial and gender discourses. In this paper, the breaking down of this gender bias through techniques of resistance will be explored in two novels by their fellow writers, Zora Neale Hurston and Alice Walker.

Operation Medusa Apr 05 2021

Women Who Fly Mar 24 2020 From the beautiful apsaras of Hindu myth to the swan maidens of European fairy tales, stories of flying women-some carried by wings, others by clouds, rainbows, floating scarves, and flying horses-reveal the perennial fascination with and ambivalence about female power and sexuality. In *Women Who Fly*, Serinity Young examines the motif of the flying woman as it appears in a wide variety of cultures and historical periods, in legends, myths, rituals, sacred narratives, and artistic productions. She considers supernatural women like the

Valkyries of Norse legend, who transport men to immortality; winged deities like the Greek goddesses Iris and Nike; figures of terror like the Furies, witches, and succubi; airborne Christian mystics; and wayward, dangerous women like Lilith and Morgan le Fay. Looking beyond the supernatural, Young examines the modern mythology surrounding twentieth-century female aviators like Amelia Earhart and Hanna Reitsch. Throughout, Young demonstrates that female power has always been inextricably linked with female sexuality and that the desire to control it is a pervasive theme in these stories. This is vividly depicted, for example, in the twelfth-century *Nibelungenlied*, in which the proud warrior-queen Brünnhilde loses her great physical strength when she is tricked into surrendering her virginity. Even in the twentieth-century the same idea is reflected in the exploits of the comic book and film character Wonder Woman who, Young suggests, retains her physical strength only because her love for fellow aviator Steve Trevor goes unrequited. The first book to systematically chronicle the figure of the flying woman in myth, literature, art, and pop culture, *Women Who Fly* offers a fresh look at the ways in which women have both influenced and been understood by society and religious traditions throughout the ages and around the world.

Women Philosophers on Autonomy Aug 09 2021 We encounter autonomy in

virtually every area of philosophy: in its relation with rationality, personality, self-identity, authenticity, freedom, moral values and motivations, and forms of government, legal, and social institutions. At the same time, the notion of autonomy has been the subject of significant criticism. Some argue that autonomy outweighs or even endangers interpersonal or collective values, while others believe it alienates subjects who don't possess a strong form of autonomy. These marginalized subjects and communities include persons with physical or psychological disabilities, those in dire economic conditions, LGBTI persons, ethnic and religious minorities, and women in traditional communities or households. This volume illuminates possible patterns in these criticisms of autonomy by bringing to light and critically assessing the contribution of women throughout the history of philosophy on this important subject. The essays in this collection cover a wide range of historical periods and influential female philosophers and thinkers, from medieval philosophy through to contemporary debates. Important authors whose work is considered, among many others, include Hildegard of Bingen, Margaret Cavendish, Anne Conway, Mary Wollstonecraft, Susan Moller Okin, Hélène Cixous, Iris Marion Young, and Judith Jarvis Thomson. *Women Philosophers on Autonomy* will enlighten and inform contemporary debates on

autonomy by bringing into the conversation previously neglected female perspectives from throughout history. [Feminisms](#) Apr 17 2022 "Everything you might want to know about the history and practice of feminist criticism in North America". -Feminist Bookstore News *The Third Body* Jun 19 2022 Jacques Derrida has called Cixous the greatest contemporary French writer. **White Ink** Sep 10 2021 Helene Cixous is widely regarded as one of the world's most influential feminist writers and thinkers. "White Ink" brings together her most revealing interviews, available in English for the first time. Spanning over four decades and including a new interview with the editor Susan Sellers, this collection presents a brilliant, running commentary on the subjects at the heart of Cixous' writing. Here, Cixous discusses her books and her creative process, her views on and insights into literature, philosophy, theatre, politics, aesthetics, faith and ethics, human relations and the state of the world. As she responds to interviewers' questions, Cixous is prompted to reflect on her roles and activities as poet, playwright, feminist theorist, professor of literature, philosopher, woman, Jew. Each interview is a remarkable performance, an event in language and thought where Cixous' celebrated intellectual and poetic force can be witnessed 'in action'. The accessibility of the interview format provides an excellent starting-point for readers new

to Cixous, while those already familiar with her work will find unexpected insights and fresh elucidations of her thought. **Laugh of the Medusa** Oct 23 2022 **Hélène Cixous** May 26 2020 A lucid, original and inventive critical introduction to Helene Cixous (1937-). Royle offers close readings of many of her works, from *Inside* (1969) to the present. He foregrounds Cixous's importance for 'English literature' as well as creative writing, autobiography, narrative theory, psychoanalysis, ecology, gender studies and queer theory. **Mother Homer is Dead** Jan 14 2022 The first translation into English of *Mother Homer is Dead*, written in the immediate aftermath of the death of the Cixous's mother in the 103rd year of her life. [Medusa in the Graveyard](#) Sep 29 2020 *Medusa in the Graveyard* is the action-packed, science fiction sequel to Emily Devenport's *Medusa* Uploaded. *The Verge*—15 new science fiction and fantasy books to check out in July Oichi Angelis, former *Worm*, along with her fellow insurgents on the generation starship *Olympia*, head deeper into the Charon System for the planet called *Graveyard*. Ancient, sentient, alien starships wait for them—three colossi so powerful they remain aware even in self-imposed sleep. The race that made the *Three* are dead, but Oichi's people were engineered with this ancient DNA. A delegation from *Olympia* must journey to the heart of *Graveyard* and be

judged by the Three. Before they're done, they will discover that weapons are the least of what the ships have to offer. At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

Key Terms in Literary

Theory Nov 19 2019 Guide to key terms in literary theory - designed to make difficult terms, concepts and theorists accessible and understandable.

Women's place in fiction.

How Virginia Woolf

prefigured theories of the second wave of feminist

writers Jul 08 2021 Academic Paper from the year 2018 in the subject Women Studies / Gender Studies, grade: 1, University of Malta (English Studies), course: ENG 2063 Theories of Literature 3: Gender and Power, language: English, abstract: This paper analyzes to what extent Woolf's essay *A Room of One's Own* had an impact on second wave feminist writers. In the first part, three of the most important theories of Woolf's essay are outlined. In the second part, both Simone De Beauvoir's book *The Second Sex* as well as Helene Cixous' essay *The Laugh of the Medusa* are analyzed by looking at whether Woolf's three theories are or are not to be found in them. The last part looks at the extent to which these three feminists shared or did not share the same opinions and at how strong Woolf's influence on them was. The English writer and feminist Virginia Woolf has had a tremendous impact on feminists to come. While other feminists of her

time still concentrated on political rights, she was already announcing topics which prefigured some of the central preoccupations of later feminists, questioning the definition of femininity and the role that patriarchy had chosen for women.

Rationale of the Dirty Joke

Feb 15 2022 Why do people tell dirty jokes? And what is it about a joke's dirtiness that makes it funny? G. Legman was perhaps the foremost scholar of the dirty joke, and as legions of humor writers and comedians know, his *Rationale of the Dirty Joke* remains the most exhaustive and authoritative study of the subject. More than two thousand jokes and folktales are presented, covering such topics as *The Female Fool*, *The Fortunate Fart*, *Mutual Mismatching*, and *The Sex Machine*. These folk texts are authentically transcribed in their innocent and sometimes violent entirety. Legman studies each for its historical and socioanalytic significance, revealing what these jokes mean to the people who tell them and to the people who listen and laugh. Here -- back in print -- is the definitive text for comedians and humor writers, Freudian scholars and late night television enthusiasts. *Rationale of the Dirty Joke* will amuse you, offend you, challenge you, and disgust you, all while demonstrating the intelligence and hilarity of the dirty joke. *Mother Reader* May 06 2021 The intersection of motherhood and creative life is explored in these writings on mothering that turn the spotlight from the

child to the mother herself. Here, in memoirs, testimonials, diaries, essays, and fiction, mothers describe first-hand the changes brought to their lives by pregnancy, childbirth, and mothering. Many of the writers articulate difficult and socially unsanctioned maternal anger and ambivalence. In *Mother Reader*, motherhood is scrutinized for all its painful and illuminating subtleties, and addressed with unconventional wisdom and candor. What emerges is a sense of a community of writers speaking to and about each other out of a common experience, and a compilation of extraordinary literature never before assembled in a single volume. *Of Sphere* Oct 19 2019 Literary Nonfiction. Women's Studies. A lyric meditation on affect, relationality, and environment, *OF SPHERE* conjures a self and world that both bloom and fall apart. Given this continually unfastening attempt to make a cosmos--to equip, adorn, dress, ornament--what is it to know, and love, and be? In constellation with the experimental prose of writers such as Hélène Cixous, Clarice Lispector, and H.D., the book investigates ways a woman, aware she's always becoming gendered, might resist sealing into a character according to cultural norms. How to be wind through goldenrod. Clarity streaked with berry juice. *The Newly Born Woman* Aug 17 2019 Published in France as *La jeune née* in 1975, and now translated for the first time into English, *The Newly Born Woman* seeks to uncover the

veiled structures of language and society that have situated women in the position called 'woman's place.'

Helene Cixous Dec 21 2019

Abigail Bray offers a lucid and accessible introduction to H el ene Cixous and her theorisation of writing and sexual difference. This book explores the context of feminist debates surrounding Cixous's work and provides a concise explanation of her major philosophical and literary concepts, including the 'other bisexuality', the 'third body', and l' criture feminine. Bray demonstrates, through original and provocative readings of texts by James Joyce, Virginia Woolf, Clarice Lispector and Angela Carter, the creative potential of Cixous's thought on literature and philosophy. Reading Cixous alongside Nietzsche, Heidegger, Deleuze and Derrida, Bray argues for a recognition of Cixous as one of the important thinkers of our times.

The Politics of the Essay Mar 04 2021

"The Politics of the Essay is that rare scholarly work that provides both a history of this relatively new field and of its formal characteristics and inspires its readers to want to participate in the making of this history." -- Signs The first in-depth study of the relationship between women and essays. Employing gender, race, class, and national identity as axes of analysis, this volume introduces new perspectives into what has been a largely apolitical discussion of the essay. Includes an original essay by Susan Griffin.

The Medusa Project: Hunted

Feb 21 2020 The fourth gripping installment in bestselling children's author Sophie McKenzie's MEDUSA PROJECT series - back with a bold new cover look! Dylan, the daughter of the scientist who created the Medusa gene for psychic powers, has never felt she really fits into the crime-fighting Medusa Project. But then she makes a discovery about her father's death which changes everything. As she and the other Medusa teens search for the truth, Dylan meets Harry - a boy who seems to know more about Dylan's past than she does. But can Dylan trust him? While Dylan searches for the mysterious legacy that her father has left her from beyond the grave, her dad's killer closes in. But just how far is the murderer prepared to go to keep Dylan from finding out the truth?

Medusa Jul 28 2020

Gorgon. Killer. Monster. Victim. Survivor. Protector. Medusa breathes new life into an ancient story and echoes the battle that women throughout millennia have continued to wage.

Feminist Stylistics Aug 21 2022

First published in 2004. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

The H el ene Cixous Reader

Dec 25 2022 This key collection of feminist writing includes essays, works of fiction, lectures and drama, all arranged chronologically. Spanning twenty years, it demonstrates the development of one of the great creative minds of the 20ieth

century. This is the first truly representative collection of texts by Helene Cixous. The substantial pieces range broadly across her entire oeuvre, and include essays, works of fiction, lectures and drama. Arranged helpfully in chronological order, the extracts span twenty years of intellectual thought and demonstrate clearly the development of one of the most creative and brilliant minds of the twentieth century. With a foreword by Jacques Derrida, a preface by Cixous herself, and first-class editorial material by Susan Sellers, The Helene Cixous Reader is destined to become a key text of feminist writing.

The Radiant Way Dec 01 2020

1979. Three old Cambridge friends are brought together at a party to celebrate New Year's Eve and the end of a decade. Esther, Liz and Alix first met in Cambridge in the early Fifties, a time when their futures held glittering promise. But with the dawn of the Thatcher era, everything changed. Now middle-aged, how will these confident women cope with the personal and professional challenges they will come to face? 'A sublime example of Drabble's mastery in unravelling the intricacies of intimate relationships' - The Times *Stigmata* Jan 02 2021 H el ene Cixous -- author, playwright and French feminist theorist -- is a key figure in twentieth-century literary theory. *Stigmata* brings together her most recent essays for the first time. Acclaimed for her intricate and challenging

writing style, Cixous presents a collection of texts that get away -- escaping the reader, the writers, the book. Cixous's writing pursues authors such as Stendhal, Joyce, Derrida, and Rembrandt, da Vinci, Picasso -- works that share an elusive movement in spite of striking differences. Along the way these essays explore a broad range of poético-philosophical questions that have become characteristic of Cixous' work: * love's labours lost and found * feminine hours * autobiographies of writing * the prehistory of the work of art Stigmata goes beyond theory, becoming an extraordinary writer's testimony to our lives and times.

Little Medusa's Hair Do-Lemma

Apr 24 2020 Little Medusa comes from a long line of snake-loving, serpentine-wearing Gorgons. When she receives her very first snake, Little Medusa discovers that having a snake slither and slide through her hair isn't so great after all. And to make matters more difficult, she begins questioning if she really wants to scare her friends to stone with her new forever friend. Using her imagination and heart, Little Medusa tries her best to please her family, her best-pet snake, and herself. Based on Greek Mythology, Little Medusa features Common Core Connections and explores the universal themes of following family tradition and staying true to oneself.

Embodied Research

Methods Oct 31 2020

Disembodied research erects false dichotomies between

flesh and reason, and between the corporeal and the social. By contrast, Torkild Thanem and David Knights engage with approaches and practices that exploit the body's capacity to generate knowledge, craft lively accounts, and create fleshy concepts. These approaches enrich our understanding of how people live, work, and interact with their bodies within the social world. Thanem and Knights discuss methods, practices, and personal experiences which involve bodies in the research process - in generating and analysing empirical material, reflecting on the work they do as researchers, and turning research into written text. Embodied Research Methods is an important and practical resource for undergraduate and postgraduate students across the social sciences, and a thought-provoking read for researchers in these areas.

The Routledge Language and Cultural Theory Reader Sep 22 2022 This is a core introduction to the most innovative and influential writings to have shaped and defined the relations between language, culture and cultural identity.

Management Studies in Crisis Jun 07 2021

Management research is criticised for poor research practices and not addressing important problems. Tourish proposes fundamental changes to rescue it from crisis. A must read for management and organisation scholars, practising managers, university administrators and policy makers within higher education.

Women & Power Oct 11 2021

An updated edition of the Sunday Times Bestseller Britain's best-known classicist Mary Beard, is also a committed and vocal feminist. With wry wit, she revisits the gender agenda and shows how history has treated powerful women. Her examples range from the classical world to the modern day, from Medusa and Athena to Theresa May and Hillary Clinton. Beard explores the cultural underpinnings of misogyny, considering the public voice of women, our cultural assumptions about women's relationship with power, and how powerful women resist being packaged into a male template. A year on since the advent of #metoo, Beard looks at how the discussions have moved on during this time, and how that intersects with issues of rape and consent, and the stories men tell themselves to support their actions. In trademark Beardian style, using examples ancient and modern, Beard argues, 'it's time for change - and now!' From the author of international bestseller SPQR: A History of Ancient Rome. The Medusa Gaze in Contemporary Women's Fiction Mar 16 2022 The Medusa Gaze offers striking insights into the desires and frustrations of women through the narratives of the impressive contemporary novelists Angela Carter, Toni Morrison, Sylvia Plath, Margaret Atwood, A.S. Byatt, Iris Murdoch, Jeanette Winterson, Jean Rhys and Michèle Roberts. It illuminates women's power and vulnerability as they construct

their own egos in opposition to their hostile alter egos or others facing them in their mirrors, and fixes a panoptic gaze on the women stalking its pages, as they learn how to deflect the menacing gaze of others by returning their look defiantly back at them. Some stare back and win assurance; others are stared down, reduced to psychic trauma, madness and even suicide. The book shows how Freud's, Sartre's and Lacan's androcentric views define the Medusa m/other as monstrous, and how the efforts of mothers to nurture may be slighted as inadequate or devouring. It presents Medusa and other goddess figures as inspirational, repelling harm through the 'evil eye' of their powerful gaze. Conversely, it also shows women who are condemned as monstrous Gorgons, trapped in enmity, rivalry and rage. Representing English, American and African American, Canadian and Caribbean writing, the works explored here include realistic, social narrative and magical realist writings, in addition to tales of the past and dystopian narratives.

The concept of Ecriture Feminine in Helene Cixous's "The Laugh of the Medusa"
Nov 24 2022 Essay from the year 2012 in the subject English Language and

Literature Studies - Literature, grade: 1,7, Christian-Albrechts-University of Kiel, language: English, abstract: In the year 1975 the French feminist author Helene Cixous published an essay called "The Laugh of the Medusa". In it, she develops an entirely new theoretical concept with the aim of giving rise to feminist voice. The central ideas of Ecriture Feminine, literally "women's writing", are going to be presented in this paper. In the first part, a brief description of Cixous's intellectual milieu is given in order to show the actual reason that led her to come up with a new notion of liberating women from patriarchy. In this context, an elaboration on poststructuralism, the philosophical current Cixous belonged to, follows. Closely related to that is the authors skepticism towards Sigmund Freud's language philosophy. Specifically speaking, Freud's statements on the penis envy theory. Primary attention is paid to the theory of phallogentrism, which can be seen as one of the main reasons for Cixous's writings. For a better understanding of this term, the concept of logocentrism is also explained, as well. Logocentrism can be seen as a pillar of the theory of phallogentrism and therefore it deserves to be mentioned at

this point. In the second part, we deal with the question of what is actually meant by "women's writing". Furthermore, we will analyze which role the female body and sexuality plays in this context. This excursion is highly interesting as it is crucial for the understanding of her concept. Since the female body is considered a key for women to resist masculinist thinking and, hence, the systematic repression of women. Apart from that, we try to show whether features of Ecriture Feminine are evident in the "The Laugh of the Medusa". Moreover, a different viewpoint on Cixous's theory is shown in the chapter "Criticism" in which arguments for and against her theory are shown. In point five "Conclusion" the main aspects of this paper are summed up. When writing this paper, the main source of information were essays on women's writing and French feminist writing, dating from 1987 to 1986. Besides, secondary literature on literary and cultural theory as well as feminist practice and poststructuralist theory were used. Recent research on Cixous's work, however, could not be found. The only source dealing particularly with her writings dates from 1991.

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