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"Proust and Photography: Albertine and Memory Production"

Abstract: Attending to photographic elements in the Proust's Albertine story, we envisage the Recherche not as a novel of recollection (or of the recuperation of loss through art) but as a kind of novel of adventure which concerns the adventure of being in time. In the Albertine story memory becomes not simply a container for past images but a photographer in action. We examine the production (as distinct from the recollection) of memories in Proust's novel in light of Bergson's theory of memory production (presented in his essay on *Déjà Vu*), and suggest an alternative to Benjamin's (anti-Bergsonian) reading of memory – and of Proust.