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Modernism and the fate of individuality: character and novelistic form from Conrad to Woolf / Michael Levenson

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Abstrak

Modernism and the fate of individuality examines the complexities and transitions of the idea of the self in the modernist period. Michael Levenson addresses the problem of individuality, structuring his argument around detailed readings of eight major novels by Conrad, James, Forster, Ford, Lewis, Lawrence and Woolf, and his discussion engages with the extensive body of modern theoretical writing on the topic. The book addresses issues such as the crisis of liberalism, the challenge to Eurocentrism, the advance of bureaucracy, and the contest between men and women. Central to its concerns is the problem, in locating the self within the entanglements of a community, of defining formal concepts whilst preserving a moral value.