On Her Way Rejoicing: The Fiction Of Muriel Spark

Jennifer Lynn Randisi

Dame Muriel Spark was nearly forty years of age when she completed The Comforters, her first novel. Over the next five decades she published twenty-one novels, three volumes of short stories and an occasional play, a collection of poetry and children's work. The phenomenal success of Spark's sixth novel, The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie, as a stage-play, feature film and television series has ensured that she retains a popular appeal. After gaining several literary prizes and academic awards, she is now widely considered to be one of the most engaging and tantalizing writers of her generation. Randisi, Jennifer Lynn, On Her Way Rejoicing: The Fiction of Muriel Spark. Washington, DC: 1991. Rees, David. Dame Muriel Sarah Spark DBE, CLit, FRSE, FRSL (née Camberg; 1 February 1918 – 13 April 2006) was a Scottish novelist, short story writer, poet and essayist. Muriel Camberg was born in the Bruntsfield area of Edinburgh, the daughter of Bernard Camberg, an engineer, and Sarah Elizabeth Maud (née Uezzell). Her father was Jewish, and came from Lithuania (part of the Russian Empire at the time) and her mother had been raised a Presbyterian, as was Muriel. She was educated at James Gillespie's School for
Muriel Spark, however, presents her as another example of a heroine who develops as the action progresses, able to evoke strength in herself when her situation seems hopeless. Annabel, at first treated as a puppet in the hands of other people, who use her image for their own benefit, shows that she is capable of anything by the book's end. When her career and reputation are threatened and her privacy invaded, she decides to leave the country. This requires both effort and sacrifice, as she has to leave behind everything she has worked for all her life, but this is the necessary price for her...Â On Her Way Rejoicing; The Fiction of Muriel Spark. Washington: Catholic University of America Press, 1991. Shaw, Valerie.