

today

carnival

carnival

Carnival means the “temporary suspension of all hierarchic distinctions and barriers among men ... and of the prohibitions of usual life.”

Mikhail Bakhtin, *Rabelais and His World* (1966)

carnival

Carnival is the place for working out a new mode of interrelationship between individuals . . . People who in life are separated by impenetrable hierarchical barriers enter into free and familiar contact on the carnival square.

Mikhail Bakhtin, *Rabelais and His World* (1966)

carnival

It could be said (with certain reservations, of course) that a person of the Middle Ages lived, as it were, *two lives*: one that was the *official* life, monolithically serious and gloomy, subjugated to a strict hierarchical order, full of terror, dogmatism, reverence and piety; the other was the *life of the carnival square*, free and unrestricted, full of ambivalent laughter, blasphemy, the profanation of everything sacred, full of debasing and obscenities, familiar contact with everyone and everything. Both these lives were legitimate, but separated by strict temporal boundaries.

carnival

- medieval *mundus inversus*
- utopia of an egalitarian society
- popular culture
- inverse world of the polyphonic novel
- “plurality of independent and unmerged voices” (Bakhtin)

today

Women's Day

Women's Day

- Mary Wollstonecraft (1759-1797)
 - political author & feminist
 - *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* (1792)
 - *Maria: or, the Wrongs of Woman* (posthum.)
 - fragment of a Gothic Novel
 - ambiguous title
 - Maria – George Venables
 - Jemima (attendant in asylum), Henry Darnford
 - alternative endings
- Virginia Woolf
- Margaret Atwood, Carol Ann Duffy

A Vindication of the Rights of Woman

My own sex, I hope, will excuse me, if I treat them like rational creatures, instead of flattering their FASCINATING graces, and viewing them as if they were in a state of perpetual childhood, unable to stand alone. I earnestly wish to point out in what true dignity and human happiness consists--I wish to persuade women to endeavour to acquire strength, both of mind and body, and to convince them, that the soft phrases, susceptibility of heart, delicacy of sentiment, and refinement of taste, are almost synonymous with epithets of weakness, and that those beings who are only the objects of pity and that kind of love, which has been termed its sister, will soon become objects of contempt.

A Vindication of the Rights of Woman

Strengthen the female mind by enlarging it, and there will be an end to blind obedience; but, as blind obedience is ever sought for by power, tyrants and sensualists are in the right when they endeavour to keep women in the dark, because the former only want slaves, and the latter a play-thing.

When, therefore, I call women slaves, I mean in a political and civil sense [...].

text archives, text repositories etc

traditional printing

- author
 - contacts publisher, submits abstract/sample
 - researches & submits manuscript electronically
- publisher
 - decides on credentials of author
 - in-house editor: checks & revises manuscript
 - external reader: checks manuscript, suggests changes
 - in-house editing, typesetting, printing, cover design
 - provides ISBN number
 - post-production quality control (errata)

marketing

- catalogue, conferences, in-book ads
- library copies (British Library, Deutsche Nationalbibliothek DNB, Library of Congress)
- public readings
- review copies (journals, newspapers)
- famous reviewers, on cover
- further editions (small first print run)

prestige of printed book

- integrity
 - stamp of approval: author accepted by reputable editor (in-house and out-house verification)
- materiality
 - time-proven (physical) stability
 - user-friendly, energy independent, versatile
 - binding: from cheap to expensive
 - aesthetics of binding/cover (cf. sleeve art)
 - collector's item
- stability
 - stable text basis (post-print manipulation difficult)

differences

- printed book
 - defect: missing pages/corrupted text instantly visible
 - materiality: indicate status (binding, author, cover, publisher)
 - “hermeneutics of book”: expectation of book, reading process influenced
 - primary source (literature, text books)
- electronic file
 - corrupted file difficult to check (OCR errors)
 - no status, “immaterial”, no “hermeneutics of book”
 - selective reading, complementary/secondary to book

electronic (literary) texts

- repositories
 - Project Gutenberg ([PG](#))
 - Bartleby.com ([Bartleby](#))
 - The Oxford Text Archive ([OTA](#))
 - Literature Online ([LION](#))
- stability & integrity
 - printed vs. electronic collections
 - integrity editor/publisher