

Clothes Kaleidoscopes in the novel *Adela* by Garabet Ibrăileanu

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Abstract: *This paper studies the body and clothing in Garabet Ibrăileanu’s Adela, a Romanian novel where the body is in a continuous articulation, discursive and material, in a continuous becoming. The body is visible and legible, forcing the individual to resort to refined communication-spacing techniques. Following this line of analysis, I show how clothing kaleidoscopes express the world without saying a word, how modesty – of the body, but also of the woman’s soul – becomes the sound of silence, used as an allusion to the promises of woman’s nudity, all this unfolding in the absence of articulated language. The garment, as a flying buttress of the body, becomes a language accessible to all, a set of clues and traps, that is to say a means of communication. Adela’s silence is in contradiction with the sounds that her body and her clothes generate, producing a confusing semantic explosion, but one consonant with our speech.*

Keywords: *Adela (Garabet Ibrăileanu), clothes, body*