

Zadie Smith
Fiction Craft Seminar
NYU-Paris, Room 410

Mondays, 11:30am – 2:00pm
Tuesdays, 11:00am – 1:30pm

Two Shades of Blue

We will be looking at two 20th century novels in depth, *The Bluest Eye* and *The Blue Flower*, and asking ourselves, by using these two examples, what a novel is and how it functions and differs from other written forms. What does literary language enable? What is a character? What is style?

Susan Sontag said "A style is a means of insisting upon something." What do the very different styles of these two novels insist upon?

With supplementary essays by Sontag and DH Lawrence, and three stories by Denis Johnson, Milan Kundera and Toni Cade Bambara. (These will be sent as pdfs.)

Required Texts:

The Bluest Eye, Toni Morrison
The Blue Flower, Penelope Fitzgerald