

Unflinching Fatalism:



Rosalie Prudent 's Cinematic Confession &
WALERIAN BOROWCZYK 'S
take on Motherhood.

PREAMBLE:

THIS TEXT CONSTITUTES an exploration of the themes present in Guy de Maupassant 's story „*Rosalie Prudent*„ [1886], as prompted here by Walerian Borowczyk 's eponymous adaptation [1996]. My wish in this experiment is to propose a fictional dialogue between a few near-contemporary figures who shared an affinity with certain cultural currents and philosophical concerns, namely realism, fatalism and the nature of man. Borowczyk 's ascetic, clinical interpretation of „*Rosalie*„ has brought to my attention particular features of de Maupassant 's story. *Rosalie Prudent* 's suffering and the tragedy of her destiny are illuminated and enhanced by Borowczyk 's use of camera and sound and employing a rigorously minimal *mise-en-scène* to accentuate de Maupassant 's cruel realism with even more contemporary force as I shall explore in my essay.

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