Corrina Readioff

**Narrative voice in The Memoirs and Interesting Adventures of an Embroidered Waistcoat**

‘Object narratives explicitly displace and disembodied the human agent, simultaneously freeing the author of liability and exposing his or her limited cultural power’ – Christopher Flint

‘To the Wits at White’s, George’s, and Sam’s’- *Adventures of an Embroidered Waistcoat*, p. v

Sir Richard Steele refers to ‘White’s Chocolate-house’ in the edition of the Tatler published on 31 April 1709, Markman Ellis has identified at least two different coffee-houses known as ‘George’s’, one in Chancery Lane & one near Temple Bar, Strand, and Jerry White mentions the close proximity of Sam’s Coffee-House to the Royal Exchange, and its destruction by fire in 1748.

‘[…] object narratives attempt to render sartorial commodities safe by placing them under human control, emphasizing the human subject’s agency over those items worn closest to the self.’ – Chloe Wigston Smith

Object narratives ‘often [begin] at the moment at which the object has been severed from the body and lies in disuse under the sofa, in the wardrobe, or at the pawnshop.’ – Chloe Wigston Smith

There is a ‘fatigued and self-deprecating tone that these narratives assume in their framing, suggesting a generic self-consciousness that acknowledges the it-narrative as being, almost from its inception, a hackneyed and reiterative form.’ – Caroline Lupton

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6 Ibid, p. 367


Memoirs and interesting adventures of an embroidered waistcoat. Part II. In which is introduced, the episode of a petticoat. (London: J. Brooke, 1751) via Eighteenth Century Collections Online. 1/6/2004. <http://ezproxy-prd.bodleian.ox.ac.uk:2119/ecco/infomark.do?type=search&tabID=T001&queryId=Locale%28en%2C%29%3AFQE%3D%28BN%2CNone%2C7%29N011137%24&sort=Author&searchType=AdvancedSearchForm&version=1.0&userGroupName=oxford&prodId=ECCO> [accessed 23/10/2014]

