

Rewriting the Labyrinth of Memory and Fiction: The
Imaginary of War in *Thésée, sa vie nouvelle* by Camille de
Toledo

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Abstract. Within Camille de Toledo's project of (re)writing the legend, war becomes the driving force behind a reflection on the power of fiction to reclaim history, both collective and familial. This article draws on critical and historical perspectives and examines how *Thésée, sa vie nouvelle* is shaped by experimentation, enigma, and a labyrinth of identity and memory. By using journal fragments, archives, images, and fictional dialogues with ancestors, De Toledo represents what often belongs to the realm of the unrepresentable, such as war, exterminations, psychological trauma, and crises of human consciousness, and reveals the structuring role of war and the allegories of an individual's confrontation with the past in this attempt to break the silence surrounding a history marked by violence, mourning, or ruin.

Keywords: Camille de Toledo, trauma, memory, labyrinth, quest for origins, writing the legend, autofiction, documentary writing, allegory.