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The “enchantress” archetype is richly depicted throughout both historical and literary contexts, thus the archetype and its characters were also richly influenced and even remains influential in contemporary settings. The enchantresses– feminine figures with magical abilities and powers, such as witchlike enchantress figure, I’m especially interested in examining the construction and deconstruction of

the enchantress archetype and its parts– magic, femininity, and power– through understanding the evolution and literary history of the enchantress.

I dedicated eight weeks to a combination of qualitative research, reading relevant primary and secondary texts, and historical and field research, exploring historical sites, museums, and libraries. Intending to read primary and secondary sources on various representations of the enchantress figure, the beginning of my reading journey included by Stacy Schiff and by Christopher S. Mackay, the former a secondary text providing an intimate glimpse into the diverse narratives in the Salem Witch Trials as Morgan le Fay and the

Lady of the Lake. Beyond literature, I visited sites related to my research, especially the Salem Witch Trials, such as the current-day town of Salem, Massachusetts and its museums, the Salem Witch Museum and the Peabody Essex Museum.

I intend to develop my summer research project into a year-long senior honors thesis with great excitement and a hopeful heart, and I am deeply grateful to the Office of Student Fellowships and the Martha Reed Coles Summer Fellowship for this wonderful opportunity. Also, thank you so much to my faculty advisor and mentor Professor Solberg for all your guidance, humor, wisdom, and encouragement. My summer of research has been nothing short of magical.

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