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Greer, Germaine (1939-)

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Soul - intellectual capacity

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It is probable that all the facts regarding sex ratios are accounted for as follows: (a) slightly greater male variation explaining the relatively small difference in the number of boys and girls found in the pre-high-school grades; and (b) an earlier cessation of mental growth on the part of the girls, resulting in the large sex difference in numbers of gifted children at the high-school level.

In mental masculinity and femininity, gifted boys rate on a par with unselected boys of corresponding age, while gifted girls deviate significantly from the norm of their sex in the direction of greater masculinity.

Girls somewhat more often than boys show a drop in the IQ as adolescence is approached or soon thereafter;
17. Nearly three quarters of the total marks earned in high
school by gifted girls and nearly half those earned by gifted boys
are A grades.

250. 5y Millie’s learning to read by 23 months

294. The Virgin (from a gifted girl’s barcar)  
   Her pride subdued by sinless, or by art  
   The maiden walks; the whisper of her heart  
   Only betrayed by her elusive rose  
   Upon her cheek. Through all her being flows  
   A consciousness of happy innocence  
   And youth most sweet for its impermanence.

Eager to live, yet fearing to be caught  
On life’s wild turbulent flood, not through untangled,  
Awant of all she is designed to be,  
The savor and delays her destiny.