

**IMAGINED CITIES: URBAN EXPERIENCE AND THE  
LANGUAGE OF THE NOVEL**

Beth X. Feeley

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### **Project MUSE - Imagined Cities: Urban Experience and the Language of the Novel (review)**

In Imagined Cities, Robert Alter traces the arc of literary development triggered by changed the ways people experienced time and space, the urban panorama became less In a series of subtle and convincing interpretations of novels by Flaubert, Dickens, Figural Language in Rousseau, Nietzsche, Rilke, and Proust.

### **JSTOR: Access Check**

His beautifully written book Imagined Cities: Urban Experience and the Language of the Novel traces the evolution of the novel "as a searching response .

In *Imagined Cities*, Robert Alter traces the arc of literary development triggered by the runaway growth of urban centers from the early nineteenth century through.

Download Citation on ResearchGate | Robert Alter, *Imagined Cities: Urban Experience and the Language of the Novel* | In his preface to *Imagined Cities*, Robert.

Robert Alter's *Imagined Cities* is perhaps best understood in terms of its sub- title, *Urban Experience and the Language of the Novel*, inasmuch as this elegant.

IMAGINED CITIES *Urban Experience and the Language of the Novel*. By Robert Alter. Illustrated. pp. Yale University Press. \$

Related books: [Medicine Road](#), [Il Cobra \(Omnibus\) \(Italian Edition\)](#), [Little Bear At Work And At Play](#), [Like Mom](#), [Liars Moon](#).

In lieu of an abstract, here is a brief excerpt of the content: When Alter discusses how Woolf 's "lyric interior monologue" and the fragmentary, staccato rhythm of the "Aeolus" chapter of *Ulysses* bring an element of delight and surprise to modernist depictions of the city, his own enthusiasm for the subject is palpable. Although Dickens employs fantastic and apocalyptic figurative language to describe the corrosive influence of pollution and exploitation upon the city and its inhabitants, Woolf and Joyce celebrate the heterogeneity of the city as an enjoyable spectacle rather than as a fearsome creature.

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Nonetheless, scholars who are seeking new inspiration for discussions of familiar texts will find much to appreciate in Alter's insightful juxtapositions and interpretations. In lieu of an abstract, here is a brief excerpt of the content: Indeed,Alterpromptly,andwithouttoomuchceremony,brushesasideNewHis  
MUSE Mission Project MUSE promotes the creation and dissemination of essential humanities and social science resources through collaboration with libraries, publishers,

and scholars worldwide. Instead, Alter treats us to an efficient reading, with generous but not heavy helpings from the texts themselves in order to show a paradigm that precedes and influences modernism.