Distance and Control: An Analysis of Narrative Voice in the Picaresque Novels *Lazarillo De Tormes* and *La Vida Del Buscón*

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DISTANCE AND CONTROL: AN ANALYSIS OF NARRATIVE VOICE IN THE PICALESQUE NOVELS LAZARILLO DE TORMES AND LA VIDA DEL BUSCÓN

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The typical Spanish picaresque novel relies heavily on a pseudo-autobiographical structure that inherently incorporates the perspective of the narrator. This narrator, commonly referred to as the pícaro, influences the way the reader interprets events based on the characteristics of his method of storytelling. The pícaro’s self-concept and self-representation, manner of discourse, and the overall narrative distance between the pícaro and his story affect the outcome of the novel. This investigation focuses specifically on the narration styles in the anonymous work Lazarillo de Tormes and Francisco de Quevedo’s La vida del buscón and how they contribute to the way the reader views each pícaro.