Muriel spark at eighty: An appreciation

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Abstract: This essay is a personal response to the work of Muriel Spark, not a critical appraisal. Many of those exist elsewhere, covering all but the latest of her twenty novels. I want to describe a year-long immersion in the work of an author, which has some of the characteristics of a love affair, including an attempt to seek identity with the lover, an apprehension of her essential otherness, and an end to the affair which was as sudden as the start.