

*ABSTRACT*

Eugenio Montale proposes an auto-exegesis of *Verso Vienna* in a letter to Piero Nardi. This essay explores the literary issues of this poem, both evident and hidden, and offers a commentary on the text. Thus some “infernal clues” (or in any case metaphysical ones) are highlighted, which can direct the reading of the text as a replication of the dialogical scenes in Dante’s “Inferno”. The correction of the dating from 1933 to 1938 has inevitable historical-political and existential implications and falls within that complex system of references between texts that characterizes *Occasioni* and the subsequent *Bufera*.

*KEYWORDS*

*Occasioni*, *Verso Vienna*, literary tradition, intertextuality, literary sources