

## STRUCTURE IN BABEL TOWER

**Q: what are the structures that illustrate  
or even support this book?**

babbletower  
bran house  
snail shells  
(twins)  
frederica's bildungsroman  
language itself... the human mind  
frederica's own book, laminations

**Q: how does this relate to Nietzsche? to Berlin Babylon?**

Nietzsche speaks a little bit about architecture...  
he works with it and against it, like Byatt

architecture

N 57/ read passage... arch. opens way for Rausch

double bind: language destroys and creates us

committee on language and education (esp. 187-89)  
front line for building new society

193/ linguistics, chomsky  
babbletower  
fable on letting everything loose

ultimately: we need literature for this imaginary space, so that it doesn't get acted out in real life

babbletower and nietzsche are deeply moral  
b529

reacting against placement, frederica's placement within the family

culvert wants to go from babble to new universal language (language of love!)

--chomsky's generative grammar

--an ideal language-user could generate and understand  
new and unique grammatical sentences  
without ever having encountered them  
in practice

--we're hard-wired, programmed for language

--there's a deep grammar in all of us

### **Ontology in Nietzsche and Byatt**

consider these passages

N55/ one must know who one is

N20/ reason believes in the will as an absolute cause; it believes in the "I,"... and projects its belief in the I-substance onto all things

N21/ I'm afraid we're not rid of God bc we still believe in grammar