

# Ada

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## Through the darkness: Musings on new media

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medicalized discourses around media addiction, but they also don't need to echo the marketing messages that kids are smarter, happier, or better off with a gadget. For every cell phone as manna study, just imagine another technology taking the phone's place, such as a diary, a camera, or maybe even a book. In the wake of the storm, my daughter found a paper dollhouse a ready substitute.

It may seem strange to inaugurate a journal devoted to feminism and new media with a discussion of new media breakdowns, candles, signs, and paper dollhouses; but, for me, the feminist message in this is that we need to envision all people as new media users, even when the technology has been around for centuries. And feminist scholars of new media must look up from their own screens and deal with larger questions of access, context, and political economy if it we are to ever deal with real questions of access and relevance beyond a privileged few. Because if it's only the gals in the networked cities, the babes with the hot new gadgets, and the desirable demographics in the digital enclosures that we are talking about and to in new media studies, then I'd rather stay in the dark.