

"Women in the Romantic and Victorian Period"

Daisuke Hatada

Abstract

This is a thesis on the representation of middle and upper-class women. In the first part of the thesis, I will discuss women in the Romantic period with reference to Jane Austen's *Sense and Sensibility*. I will argue that women at this time were free to devote themselves to their interests, and they also had freedom of expression in the sense that they could even openly oppose the opinions of men. In the second part of the thesis, I will discuss women in the Victorian period with reference to Charlotte Bronte's *Wuthering Heights* and Charlotte Perkins Gilman's *The Yellow Wallpaper*. I will argue that unlike women in the Romantic period, Victorian women most of the day remained home and were unable to enjoy the same liberties that women previously had. In serious cases, the constrained conditions of Victorian women even brought mental illness. My main point is that the situation of women in the Romantic and Victorian period was completely different, and I will look at the social and historical background to understand this difference.

"Lewis Carroll's Imaginary World"

Daichi Hayashi

Abstract

Charles Lutwidge Dodgson, better known by his penname Lewis Carroll, is the author of *Alice in Wonderland*, an important work of in the history of British Literature. As a book, it has been of long-lasting interest to scholars, and as a publication it has remained tremendously successful in modern times. In the first part of the thesis, I will look at the life of the writer and highlight his motives for writing this fantasy novel of his. Following this, I proceed to examine Carroll's parallel world, his controversial attraction to young girls, and his interest in photography in the context of Victorian society. Finally, I will use Structuralism and Jungian psychoanalytic theory and see what they reveal about *Alice in Wonderland*. By examining this book from many different perspectives, I hope to show why it might have influenced so many other writers, and why it has fascinated so many its readers up until the present day.

"Simon Langton and Joe Wright's versions of *Pride and Prejudice*"

Karen Miki Shillaw

Abstract

No words can fully describe the beauty of nature. Except, that is, the words of those who are especially talented in writing, such as the novelists of 18th century England. Jane Austen, one of the best novelists of Romantic England, was born in 1775 to a relatively wealthy family. She had six older brothers and a younger sister named after their mother, Cassandra. As a young girl, Austen wrote poems, stories, and plays to entertain not only herself, but her family as well. Her writings from 1787 to 1793 were collected and organized into three bound notebooks, which are now referred to as the *Juvenilia*. When she had finished her studies in Bristol University, Austen wrote books that were influenced by the Romantic ideas of 18th and 19th century England. Her books have been made into television dramas and Hollywood movies, including *Pride and Prejudice*, which has been made into a mini-series for the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) by Simon Langton and a Hollywood movie by Joe Wright. This thesis will highlight the differences between the BBC and Hollywood versions of *Pride and Prejudice*, and with reference to Austen's original work and what we know about the society of England during the Romantic period, seeks to arrive at a deeper appreciation of Austen's creative vision as well as Langton and Wright's respective modifications of that vision.