

Beatrix Potter's Life: Until and After when She Found a Place

Where She Belonged

Megumi AKAI

2007FB003

Abstract

Beatrix Helen Potter is the writer famous of The Tale of Peter Rabbit which has been translated into 111 languages. There are twenty-three books in The World of Peter Rabbit series and they are loved by children all over the world. Even though she was born in the upper-middle class and she didn't need to work, she worked as a writer. She grew up in London, a big city called the factory of the World at that time, but she liked the countryside and later in her life she joined the National Trust. She said that she and her brother were born in London only because their father was a lawyer but their roots and hobbies were always in Northern England.

She drew a lot of animals and nature and created her own world in her books. The animals and nature are not imaginations. They were the pets or the place where she went for summer retreats when she was young. On the other hand, her parents, especially her mother restricted her and she did not like her house where she was born.

Her books gave her financial independence, she could be independent from her parents and she got her own place, the Lake District. In my essay, I examine her books, childhood and involvement with animals and nature later in her life.

The Study of Elizabeth I: Her Portraits and Power

Ayaka Hakamata

2008FB025

Abstract

Elizabeth I, the Queen of England, used many methods of ruling. She was a woman, who was not welcomed in those days to be monarch. Moreover, her position was once degraded to illegitimate child, and it was thought impossible for her to be a monarch of England.

In order to win over this reality, she skillfully used many tools which made her an ideal monarch. Portraits were one of them, and they played important roles to realize her good and nice reign. The roles of portraits were really important, not in the same class with nowadays'. It was one type of media which conveyed what the person was, and displayed the person's authority and power. As evidence, it is shown that each of her portraits was drawn in 'appropriate' ways and was drawn to be appropriate for her age.

Thanks to this strategy, she successfully ruled her country. Her reign continued for 45 years, and has been called 'the Golden Age' of England. She was praised as the 'Virgin Queen'. Elizabeth herself no longer lives, but she stays as beautiful and young as she was in the portraits forever. Her age is handed down as the great age from generation to generation still now.

The Meanings of Hailsham and Norfolk in *Never Let Me Go*

Moe KANZAKI

2008FB217

Abstract

Never Let Me Go is a novel written by Kazuo Ishiguro in 2005. In this novel, Kathy recalls days at Hailsham which is isolated and away from the influences of the outside world. The children of Hailsham are clone humans, raised to be organ donors when they become adults. They have humanlike emotions and Hailsham has an important role for children. In addition to Hailsham, Norfolk has also interesting meanings throughout the story. I considered the meanings of Hailsham and Norfolk in this thesis.

Hailsham is like a boarding school where clone students spend their childhood. Since Hailsham is shut from the influences of the outside world, what they experience there became everything to them. Even after they left Hailsham they kept the memories of it precious. However, as 'sham' is hidden in the word Hailsham, it is a terrifying place that is created by the ignorance of the students.

Norfolk has two meanings: one is a place which is not on the way to anywhere and another is a place where lost things were kept in Hailsham. Norfolk becomes a comfort for students. Later, Kathy, Ruth and Tommy go to see a cracked boat stranded in the marshes in Norfolk. The boat seems to imply these characters, the fact that they cannot go anywhere.

In conclusion, Hailsham, which they considered as their comfort turned out to be a fake, also Norfolk, where they can find anything they have lost, turned out to be the severe place that make them realize what they are.

Connection between Rock Music and British Society

Chikashi Kato

2008FB070

Abstract

Rock music has affected British society from 1960s to the present time. In the 1950s to the 1960s, although about 90% of households in the United Kingdom could afford televisions, there remained a repressive atmosphere in British society. Musicians changed the fashion style and hairdo at the time. The neat appearances of the Beatles shook out images of manhood and womanhood. It was extremely disobedient to be on stage or television in casual wear with long hair like the Rolling Stones because it was usual for men to be in suits with a crew cut. Rock music as rebel music changed the sense of value.

In the 1970s, the youth were angry with the British Disease. They had to earn their livelihood by full unemployment insurance in spite of British custom of youngsters leaving home and living on their own when they left school. The young jobless with enough time went to clubhouses and were attracted to Punk Rock. Punk Rock was a suitable outlet for their frustration. Female fashion of Punk Rock in late 1970s reflected Sadoomasochism. This was a parody on women as sexual objects although it couldn't change sexual distinction considerably.

Various artists were creatively active in the 1980s to the early 1990s under Thatcherism. Traditional British music called Brit Pop became popular instead of the vogue of American music in the early 1990s. Tony Blair proclaimed to the world that these kinds of creations were British modern culture, and major industry.

Childhood Forever in Winnie-the-Pooh and A.A. Milne

Anri Kuroda

2007FB101

Abstract

A.A. Milne who was obsessed with childhood through his life created his Arcadia in the Pooh stories. The Hundred Acre Wood is a space where everybody is innocent and everybody does nothing in beautiful nature setting, where childhood is kept forever. As Milne looked back to a pre-war idyll and longed for it, he recaptured the golden Edwardian era in The Wind in the Willows and depicted an idyllic setting. In the Pooh stories, innocent characters live everyday life happily and peacefully in the Hundred Acre Wood. However, the end of childhood is depicted in the end of the Pooh stories. Christopher Robin has to leave the wood to start school. This end of childhood led to closing Milne's childhood mind in the Hundred Acre Wood forever. Though Milne ended the Pooh series to shield Christopher Robin from publicity, Milne spent a lot of time together with Christopher and shared his childhood even after stopping writing the Pooh series. Though Milne wanted to escape from a label of being a children's books writer, he got high reputation as a children's books author by adapting a children's story for a play. He could not escape from childhood and kept a child-like mind through his life. His Arcadia, the Hundred Acre Wood is a place where Milne can always go back and Milne's childhood mind is locked up forever.

The Effects and Social Impacts of Dress in *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*

Haruka Marume

2008FB094

Abstract

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland is a 1865 novel written by English author Charles Lutwidge Dodgson under the pseudonym Lewis Carroll. It tells of a girl named Alice who falls down a rabbit hole into a fantasy world populated by peculiar, anthropomorphic creatures.

Various unique characters appear in this story and I focused on those costumes. In this paper, I will consider how the costume of Alice and other characters affect the readers and the society of England in those days.

In the Early-Victorian period when he wrote the story, children's clothing did not exist in England. Children wore decorated clothing similar to that of adults which were very binding. However, Lewis disliked children's dress and he suggested the "ideal children's clothing".

John Tenniel drew Alice with mobile and simple clothes as Lewis said. Moreover he dressed Alice to clothes alike British upper-middle class children's that and he modified Alice's dress to fit the times. The White Rabbit's style is also the most fashionable and neat English gentleman's style at the time. Therefore Alice became familiar to the children and the parents of England those days.

From late Victorian era to Edwardian era, nostalgia for the good old days became popular as a fight against urbanization. Nostalgia for the good old days connected to idealized memories of their childhood. If the children's clothing symbolized people's idealized memory childhood, people love it naturally. In this way, the image of Alice which was made by Lewis and Tenniel is engraved in the British people's heart.

Morality of women and fashion in the Victorian Era

Kasumi Matsue

2008FB095

Abstract

Today, we can choose clothing whatever we want to wear. We need not to care about it except on formal occasions. We just enjoy fashion and it has become one of the ways to show our identities. However, this is still a new idea when we think of this trend through history. Women were suppressed by social pressure and stereotype ideas for a long time. The Victorian Era is said to be the hardest time for women as they had a very strict dress code. In the early days of this period, woman's fashion was really conservative because morality concerning woman's body was extremely strict. Even for their wedding dress, women could not choose whatever they want to wear themselves. Also, wearing corsets was an essential part of proper modest dress for women. They wore clothing not for joy, but to get married with a man who has a respectable job and to show social status. However, this way of thinking became an out-dated idea towards the end of the Victorian era and a new sense of value appeared instead.

Now, it is difficult to see the Victorian culture in our life, but we are still able to see it in the "wedding dress". It is the only thing which can be seen in special social occasion in our life. The white dress and veil are taken over from the Victorian women as these are the symbol of women's liberation and honor.

Relation of love, sex and death in *Norwegian Wood*

Mizuno Ayumi

2008FB106

Abstract

The theme of this essay is why Haruki Murakami is accepted in foreign countries. This paper will refer to the relationship of love, sex and death in "*Norwegian wood*".

"*Norwegian wood*" was written by Haruki Murakami and published in Japan in 1987. It was first published in Britain in 2000. The first chapter says that Haruki Murakami thinks that expressing Japan and writing in Japanese is very important. In addition, there are similarities between "Watanabe" in "*Norwegian wood*" and Haruki Murakami. One of the notable features of his works is the distrust of words. The second chapter describes love relationship among characters. The chapter says the position of the character as "narrator" in the story and the importance of words. The third chapter describes sex and death. Firstly, it describes Symbolism. It focuses on the meaning of the title from the view of music, the European forest, and design of the book cover. Secondly, the chapter describes Western ideas. The story has the idea of "Eros and Thanatos" and it relates to this sentence, "*Death exists, not as the opposite but as a part of a life.*" (p30). Also, the idea of "Deus ex machine- God out of the machine" is included in the story. The last chapter describes the study on Haruki Murakami from the view of foreign countries. It shows how foreign countries accept him. In conclusion, love, sex and death are related to each other. The reason why he is accepted in many countries is he does not adhere to one country.

The Outsider

Nishiyama, Ryo

2008FB122

Abstract

Oscar Wilde is a famous writer in England of the nineteenth century, the Victorian era. He wrote many kinds of poems, novels, dramas and fairy stories, and his talent of caustic and artful wit attracted a lot of people. But at the same time, his revolutionary actions without restrictions shocked people of the era. His actions, fashion and statements were really strange to them. Therefore, he was not understood and oppressed by the society. His extraordinariness made him famous and, unfortunately, it also jailed and savaged him. He was an outsider more than a writer of the time.

There are two big symbols of his glory and destruction, one is Aestheticism and another is Homoeroticism. However, the image of these symbols and his extraordinary behaviors created a stereotype about him, and it mists his messages. Certainly, he had drastic and egoistic aspects about thoughts, words, fashions and actions, but he was also a healthy, generous and sensitive person. He watched the world from an objective point of view as an outsider, and as an ordinary person, he tried to change the world for the better through his influence as an artist. His real messages are full of the love toward people and arts. However, the world did not follow him. He was the first modern outsider.

The Power of a Moment

-The Moment of Kiss Scenes in *The Hours*-

Ogasawara, Aya

2008FB221

Abstract

The novel of "The Hours" is based on "Mrs. Dalloway" and is a tripartite novel that moves freely through time and space. The main characters are three women, Clarissa, Woolf, and Brown.

Three women live different places and ages and have normal days. But each has an unforgettable kiss scene in a single day. I think those scenes do not fit in the narrative of a commonplace day. So these scenes are worth examining though the effect of the kiss scenes.

In conclusion, Michael Cunningham uses figurative expression as a resource. The figurative expression is that moment of the kiss is a trigger to escape from commonplace days.

Three women changed their minds about their future when they experienced a kiss with unpredictable persons. The effect of the moments is that fully occupy an instant that the future is open and not yet decided. In other words, three women can notice future as an unknown world. The unknown world gives their hope and fascination in their daily life. And we can see that three women' minds are moving similarly. These moments of kiss scenes were exaggerated because these figurative expressions these figurative expressions were used repeatedly. We can see that the resource can be expressing to the utmost the power of a moment.

Victorian Women in the Governess Novel

OGIHARA Tomomi

2008FB129

Abstract

The purpose of this study is to examine Victorian women in terms of the governess. I first mention social class and marriage of Victorian women. Victorian society was clearly stratified by social class and gender. It also generated a large amount of unmarriageable women because of a gender imbalance. Such women had only one way to achieve economic independence without losing rank of lady. This was as a governess and I next consider the position of governess in detail. Governesses were treated badly so it became a concern of people and extended into social problems. At such a time, about 140 governess novels were published. Among them, I investigate Jane Eyre and Vanity Fair. Both of them were epoch-making novels that revolutionized previous common sense about novels. The reason why such novels were accepted by a lot of people could be seen from the characteristic of each novel. Jane fought against society by having a strong will and self-assertion. Moreover, she always searched for women's independence. It can be said that Jane became a spokesperson for the women of the time. On the other hand, Becky Sharp in Vanity Fair overturned the image of ideal women called 'Angel in the house'. It can be said that she showed antithesis of the image of 'Angel in the house' through her novel.

Elizabeth and Mary: Rivals, Queens and Cousins

Yuka OZAKI

2008FB141

Abstract

In the early modern era, there were two remarkable queens: Elizabeth I and Mary Queen of Scots, in a small island who were enmeshed in rivalry, the same kingdom and the same throne. They had completely different lives from the time they were born. Elizabeth was a Protestant who was once labeled as a bastard after the execution of her mother by her father, and was sent into the Tower during the reign of Mary I; moreover she never married. Remaining unmarried, Elizabeth identified herself with the Virgin Mother and established herself as a potent symbol, making no enemy among the European monarchs. Mary Queen of Scots became the Queen of Scotland only six days after her birth. Her mother was French and she spent her youth in France to escape from English nobles who tried to bring her to England. Moreover she experienced three marriages. Mary used marriages to intensify her right to succeed the English throne and prevent her son from being labeled a bastard. Mary could not get the English throne; however her son James VI succeeded after Elizabeth I. Mary's son accomplished the Union of the Crowns that Elizabeth could not attain. This work traces these two queens' fates from historical aspects.

The Elements which makes *Winnie the Pooh* Famous

Shiori Tanaka

2008FB173

Abstract

Winnie-the-Pooh is a children's story, which has been published in 1926, and it has been read by people all over the world for over eighty years. To the surprise of many, although it is a book for children, many adults read it and evaluated it. The author A. A. Milne wrote two Pooh stories, *Winnie-the-Pooh* and *The House At Pooh Corner*, and this paper will mainly focus on *Winnie-the-Pooh*. To examine why this story has been loved and been read, this paper will focus on historical background and four main elements of the story; settings, characters, styles, and illustrations.

Adults wounded emotionally by the war wanted to read children's book to heal their hearts. The setting made adults think back to their childhood and the characters attracted all generations. Styles and illustrations were important to enjoy the story. Each of the elements has an impact on the readers, not only children but also adults. Accordingly, this story has been read and passed down from generation to generation. The fact that Milne had the ability to write plays, poems, and newspaper columns, the story was written with interesting sentences. This made *Winnie-the-Pooh* not simply a children's story.

Love and Social Class in *Wuthering Heights*

Yoko Yamazaki

2008FB201

Abstract

Wuthering Heights, by Emily Bronte was published in 1847. It is a gothic romance and revenge by the protagonist, Heathcliff. The novel deals with the themes of love and social class. This paper will mainly study these themes by examining historical background and spatial images of the house and the landscape.

In the Victorian era, social class was very important. The Earnshaws and the Lintons were both property owners. However, they belonged to different status, and their dwellings reflected opposing values: the Earnshaws showed nature and the Lintons showed civilization. Heathcliff may have had African origins, and was a slave at first. However, after he was broken-hearted and vowed revenge, he turned into a wealthy man. This change shows the challenge by capitalist upstarts which took place in 18th century England. Also, Heathcliff's change from slave to capitalist created the love in the second generation. The love between Hareton and Cathy was precisely the opposite with the love in the first generation. The second generation brought unity to *Wuthering Heights* by nurturing their love gradually. Therefore, their love was beyond social classes, and it also completed the love between Heathcliff and Catherine, which was never actualized. Through the novel, Emily wanted to emphasize that people will change in time using romance. Although one's appearance and race would not change, one's role in society will change.

A Study of *1984*

-George Orwell's Experiences and Belief Described in *1984* –

Ayako Yoshikawa

2008FB208

Abstract

George Orwell's *1984* has been mistakenly recognized since the novel was published. George Orwell, a prominent British writer completed the novel called *1984* in 1894. Some people view the novel just as a near-future novel. Also some anti-communists use the novel as propaganda of anti-communism although Orwell was not anti-communist. *1984*, however, is more complicated in fact. First, *1984* is strongly related to his experiences that track back from a young age to the Spanish Civil War.

At Saint Cyprians' Orwell had hard time because of discrimination. Then in Burma, he realized the British Empire system was brutal and started to hate it. Furthermore, he participated in the Spanish Civil War to defeat Fascism. Those memories are directly connected to the world of *1984*. Also his political belief is described in *1984*. When he decided to write the novel, he was afraid of the state of affairs in those days. At that time Soviet Socialism was adored by the British left wing intelligentsia. Soviet Socialism insisted that there were no differences between the rich and the poor. Orwell believed this, but such a Soviet Myth was broken in his mind after the participation in the Spanish Civil War. In the Spanish Civil War, Orwell saw the inhumanness of Soviet socialism. Socialism of Soviet Socialism was in name only. To clear that up and make the world better, he started to write the novel. As just described, *1984* is filled with Orwell's memories, political belief, and wish toward the world.