

Abstract

This bachelor thesis focuses on analyzing the motif of motherhood in the works of Japanese writer Ōba Minako. Specifically, three selected works spanning different periods of her career are examined: the short story "Three Crabs" (1968), the short story "The Smile of the Mountain Witch" (1976), and the novel "Of Birds Crying" (1985). The study explores how Ōba portrays the role of motherhood, the associated conflicts, and the evolution of this motif throughout her literary works. The analysis draws on feminist literary theory and cultural contexts specific to Japan.

Keywords: Ōba Minako, mother motif, motherhood, feminist literary theory, women's literature