

Women's Contemporary Dystopias: Feminist Protagonists Taking Back Control

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Abstract : The Canadian author Margaret Atwood deconstructs the tainted dichotomies between women and men by embracing the disorder throughout her dystopias. In Atwood's *The Testaments*, nature can be seen as a background to the story as well as a metaphorical expression of the characters' state of mind, nevertheless, the protagonists' nature writing portrays conveys a curiosity to the pre-established sanctions of a docile garden, viewing nature as an autonomous entity, especially when they are away from the confinements of Gilead's regime. The three narrating protagonists, Agnes, Aunt Lydia, and Nicole, use nature writing subversively as a form of rebellion. This paper investigates how the three protagonists narrate nature through an intimist point of view, with sensibility to observe the multiple relationships among humanity, nature, and the impositions of a theocratic ultra conservative patriarchal society.

Keywords : contemporary literature, dystopias, feminism, women's writing

Conference Title : ICLLL 2021 : International Conference on Languages, Literature and Linguistics

Conference Location : Amsterdam, Netherlands

Conference Dates : May 13-14, 2021