

## Making a 'Once-upon-a-Time' Mythology in Kazuo Ishiguro's The Buried Giant

**Authors :** Masami Usui

**Abstract :** Kazuo Ishiguro's challenging novel, *The Buried Giant*, embodies how contemporary writers and readers have to discover the voices buried in our history. By avoiding setting or connecting the modern and contemporary historical incidents such as World War II this time, Ishiguro ventures into retelling myth, transfiguring historical facts, and revealing what has been forgotten in a process of establishing history and creating mythology. As generally known, modernist writers in the twentieth century employed materials from authorized classical mythologies, especially Greek mythology. As an heir of this tradition, Ishiguro imposes his mission of criticizing the repeatedly occurring yet easily-forgotten history of dictatorship and a slaughter on mythology based on King Arthur and its related heroes and myths in Britain. On an open ground, Ishiguro can start his own mythical story and space.

**Keywords :** English literature, fantasy, globalism, history

**Conference Title :** ICELL 2016 : International Conference on English Language and Linguistics

**Conference Location :** Paris, France

**Conference Dates :** July 25-26, 2016