

Abstract

This thesis will focus on three women characters in the novel *Los pasos perdidos* written by Alejo Carpentier. The thesis will analyse patriarchal elements in the novel. Firstly, it will briefly describe the terms *machismo*, *patriarchy*, and *sexism*, which are fundamental for understanding the novel. The aim of the work will be the analysis of the three women: Ruth, Mouche and Rosario. Each of them comes from a different social background and guides the protagonist through a specific phase of his life. Each woman in the novel is portrayed as an object serving the protagonist as a toll for his personal development.