Abstract

This bachelor thesis focuses on the Finnish interpretation of the fin-de-siècle literary movements. The main objective is to identify the characteristic features of these movements in the works of the author Johannes Linnankoski. The analysed work is the novel Laulu tulipunaisesta kukasta (The Song of the Blood-Red Flower, 1905), which follows the fate of Olavi, the Finnish Don Juan, during his journey through the Finnish countryside, and deals with the theme of the individual's internal struggle between free love and social moral norms. The theoretical part of the thesis begins with a brief introduction of the author and his works. Subsequently, the basic characteristics of the individual fin-de-siècle literary movements are defined. The thesis further provides a literary-historical context, covering the development of the Finnish literary scene from the 1880s to the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries, the European influence on Finnish literature, and a description of how Finnish writers adapted European literary trends. The central part of this thesis is the analysis of the novel Laulu tulipunaisesta kukasta, in which the characteristic features of the literary movements defined in the theoretical part are identified in selected examples. The analysis also provides a comparative perspective, contextualizing these features with the works of other Finnish authors.

Keywords: Johannes Linnankoski, Finnish Literature, The Song of the Blood-Red Flower, National Neo-Romanticism, Symbolism, Decadence, Karelianism, fin-de-siècle