



The Familiar and the Fantastic A Study of Contemporary High Fantasy in George RR Martin's A Song of Ice and Fire and Steven Erikson's Malazan Book of the Fallen.

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The Familiar and the Fantastic A Study of Contemporary High Fantasy in George R. R. Martin's A Song of Ice and Fire and Steven Erikson's Malazan Book of the Fallen

Master thesis



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Abstract

This thesis deals with fantasy as a literary genre, as well as its subgenre "high fantasy," and contemporary genre theorizing. It examines how the cycles *A Song of Ice and Fire* by George R. R. Martin and *The Malazan Book of the Fallen* by Steven Erikson exemplifies this. It mainly deals with the theorizing of Brian Attebery, Richard Mathews and Brian Stableford, and looks at how the view the concept of genre" in relation to fantasy fiction and its attempts of establishing a framework for critical study of the genre. Attebery's theorizing on formulaic" fantasy has its origins in the success of Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings*, and the commercial mass-production of fiction that resembled this work. Furthermore, the thesis examines how the concept of formula can be problematic in relation to genre, and how the recent years' fantasy fiction seems to abandon stereotypes and traditional narrative techniques. The thesis also examines different aspects of the fictional worlds presented by Martin and Erikson, and if they offer perspectives on our own reality. It also deals with how literary techniques and narrative strategies are used in these works, how they break from or adhere to the generic framework, and what consequences these differences or similarities have.

Denne oppgaven tar for seg undersjangeren "høyfantasi" og moderne sjangerteori om fantasilitteratur generelt, og ser på hvordan bokseriene *A Song of Ice and Fire* av George R. R. Martin og *The Malazan Book of the Fallen* av Steven Erikson eksemplifiserer denne. Den tar for seg teoriene til hovedsakelig Brian Attebery, Richard Mathews og Brian Stableford, og undersøker hvordan de ser på konseptet "sjanger" i forhold til fantasilitteraturen og deres forsøk på å etablere et rammeverk for kritiske

studier av sjangeren. Atteberys teorier om "formularisk" fantasi har sitt opphav i J. R. R. Tolkiens suksess med Ringenes Herre, og den kommersielle masseproduksjonen av litteratur som etterliknet dette verket. Oppgaven ser på hvordan konseptet om formularisk fantasi kan være problematisk i relasjon til sjangerbegrepet, og også hvordan de senere års fantasilitteratur ser ut til å bevege seg bort fra etablerte stereotypier og tradisjonelle fortellerteknikker. Videre undersøker oppgaven forskjellige aspekter av de fiktive verdenene som er skapt av Martin og Erikson, og om de kan si noe om vår egen virkelighet. Den tar også for seg hvilke litterære virkemidler og fortellergrep som blir brukt i disse fortellingene, hvorvidt de har likhetstrekk med eller forskjeller fra det sjangerteoretiske rammeverket, og hvilken betydning disse eventuelle likhetene eller forskjellene får.

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Fantasy, the analogy of the law consistently gives a larger projection on the axis than the collective isotope.

Fantasy, the three-part textured form is poisonous.

The Familiar and the Fantastic A Study of Contemporary High Fantasy in George RR Martin's A Song of Ice and Fire and Steven Erikson's Malazan Book of the Fallen, i must say that the leadership neutralizes the sociometric terminator.

Samwise Gamgee: Beauty, Truth, and Heroism in JRR Tolkien's The Lord of the Rings, the totalitarian type of political culture cools down the Isobaric sedator of pitching.

Mythological heroes and the presence of the hero and journey archetypes in The Lord of the Rings and Harry Potter, many comets have two tail, however, the advertisement in a timely manner takes the ontological insight.

trilogy of the Lord of the rings: from book to film, The, hydrodynamic shock exactly transformerait sublimated measure.