If I were Anne: how Sweden brought Anne of Green Gables to the Palestinian classroom

Mary McDonald-Rissanen

Resumo

Sweden’s teachers have a history of engaging children through literature into the humanistic endeavor of developing self-esteem and a positive attitude to life. The Canadian classic Anne of Green Gables written by Lucy Maud Montgomery in 1908 is one of the works of literature where a pedagogy has been developed to further these aims. The Swedish organization Diakonia has been instrumental in promoting these same ideals of empowering children through literature. While in Palestine I became familiar with Diakonia’s activities with local educators and in this article I examine how Palestinian teachers use this methodology with their Arabic copy of Anne of Green Gables.

Palavras-chave


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Green Gables has 611,525 ratings and 17,555 reviews. Shannon said: I don't often give books five stars and as I neared the end of this book, I ga... I shall always like to remember that there is a brook at Green Gables even if I never see it again." What transpires after this will melt even the most hardened hearts. Some might say this book is too wholesome, too charming, and perhaps too unrealistic. Anne of Green Gables is a 1908 novel by Canadian author Lucy Maud Montgomery (published as L. M. Montgomery). Written for all ages, it has been considered a classic children's novel since the mid-twentieth century. Set in the late 19th century, the novel recounts the adventures of Anne Shirley, an 11-year-old orphan girl, who is mistakenly sent to two middle-aged siblings; Matthew and Marilla Cuthbert, originally intending to adopt a boy to help them on their farm in the fictional town of Avonlea on In Japan, [Anne of Green Gables] remains so popular that some Japanese businessmen recently signed a contract to import more than $1.4 million worth of potatoes from Prince Edward Island upon being told that the potatoes hailed from the same place as Anne. (Source). Yeah. When a kid's book inspires businessmen to ship $1.4 million (in 1986 dollars) worth of spuds halfway across the world, you know it's a mega-hit. So pick up a copy of Anne of Green Gables (just avoid that one weird cover that shows Anne as a sultry blond instead of a waifish carrot-top) and get to reading. When a heroine has inspired Polish soldiers, Japanese businessman and countless generations of normal, everyday girls alike...you know she's got to be worth getting to know.
Nineteenth and Twentieth-Century Life Writing. Professor Irene Gammel (Ryerson University, Canada) publically examined this dissertation and wrote: “this dissertation is written and argued with great energy and passion, and makes for fascinating reading by introducing and analyzing new subjects for the first time as well as presenting an effective frame for their critical exploration.” In December 2013 McGill-Queen’s University Press, Canada will publish Dr. McDonald-Rissanen’s book *In the Interval of the Wave* Prince Edward Island Women’s Nineteenth and Early Twentieth-Century Life Writing.

Dr. McDonald-Rissanen was born and brought up in Prince Edward Island where she is a summer resident. She has previously published the following articles on Montgomery and other PEI women diarists, “The Landscapes of Lucy Maud Montgomery” (2000); “Pulling back the thin veil: the poetic discourse of Lucy Maud Montgomery” (2001); “Veils and Gaps: The private worlds of LM Montgomery and Amy Andrew” (2005); “Imaging the Past: Atlantic Canada and Popular Representations” (2005) and “Writing Home: Pioneer Emma Chadwick Stretch’s Portrayal of Life in 19th Century Rural Prince Edward Island” (2006). Forthcoming (Spring 2014): “Crooked Ribs, Modern Martyrs, and Dull Days” University of Alberta Press, Canada in Connecting Texts and Generations: Canadian Women’s Writing/Textes and generations en contact: écritures des femmes du Canada.

**PALAVRAS-CHAVE**

Figueiredo Pimentel Formação de professores Gótico Interacionismo Intertextualidade Literatura Literatura Brasileira Literatura Comparada Língua Portuguesa Machado de Assis Memória Música Narrativa Naturalismo Poesia Psicolinguística Século XIX Videogame gramática literatura brasileira