

Metamorphoses of Oedipus in Modern French Literature. From an Intellectual Drama to a Psychoanalytical Reflection on Ideal Love

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Abstract

Oedipus Rex, a tragedy created twenty-five centuries ago, is still a source of inspiration for many writers. However, the overall message of modern interpretations of the Oedipus myth differs considerably from the message of Sophocles' play; these works are no longer the stories of a man punished by gods for his haughtiness (*hybris*). André Gide modernizes Sophocles' tragedy, transforming it into a lesson in secular humanism. The play by Jean Cocteau focuses on the transition from ignorance to awareness. Alain Robbe-Grillet creates an anti-story about the contemporary version of Oedipus, whose lot is determined, not by gods, but by chance and unconscious desires. As for the psychoanalytical interpretation of the myth by Jacqueline Harpman, it is first of all the reflection on ideal love, fully realized in an incestuous relationship between the son and his mother.

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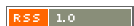
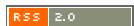
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Metamorphoses of Oedipus in Modern French Literature. From an Intellectual Drama to a Psychoanalytical Reflection on Ideal Love. Article. Jun 2020. Marcin Klik. Oedipus Rex, a tragedy created twenty-five centuries ago, is still a source of inspiration for many writers. This book is devoted to the key issues discussed by contemporary literary scholars studying the nature of myth and the relationship between myth and literature. The author mainly focuses on French studies, but the content of the book refers to universal issues of literary theory, for many years studied by scholars from all over the world, such as d View. Jak zdefiniować mit literacki, czyli o (rozwiązanym) problemie francuskich literaturoznawców. by the Oedipus complex. Benjamin Ephraim references French philosophers Gilles Deleuze and Felix Guattari to help him describe the maternal Oedipal situation exemplified in the novella: "In. apparent opposition, recognizing... As a final note of Grete's very own metamorphosis from a girl to a woman, in evident. opposition to Gregor's degradation, Kafka adds that "at the end of the ride their daughter got. up... and stretched her young body" (Kafka 55). This final nod to Grete's development as an. individual functions, in part, as a reminder of Gregor's sacrifice as the Oedipal scapegoat, and. marks the beginning of a new transformation. Being particularly intricate in nature, the Oedipus complex as an allegory of The. Recent papers in Early Modern French Literature. Papers. People. The reader will find a wealth of information here on every aspect of the classical period, as it relates to a unique personality and , if not a feminist of the modern mold avant la lettre, someone who at least promoted the dignity of women as she could, using the resources she had at her disposal." – Michael Mulryan, Christopher Newport University, Dalhousie French Studies, 112 (2018), 155-156.