

TITLE: Causerie style: A Study of an Informal Literary Style.

SWEDISH TITLE: Kåseristil

LANGUAGE: Swedish

AUTHOR: Magnus Fernberg

Abstract

This dissertation describes the style in causeries – an informal literary genre – taken from the “Världens gång” page in Göteborgs-Posten (the Gothenburg Post), 1998–99. The material consists of 288 causeries, analysed on different linguistic levels. 30 of these causeries have also been interpreted as individual texts. In order to do full justice to the material, both quantitative and qualitative methods have been used.

The analyses of the individual texts and a high relative frequency of devices as addressing the reader, allusions, inference connections, perspective markers, empathic devices and modal words, moral, obvious tendency to moral judgment, irony, stylistic figures, metaphorical language, colloquial features and free indirect style in the material indicate the intimate tone and the persuasive and amusing functions of causeries. Furthermore, the style is personal and specific to the writer, and the columnist's attitude to the text is important. The subject is also often common and topical.

The intention of the dissertation is not only to describe the prototypical causerie but also to show how the causerie style has developed. I have therefore also studied historical material, consisting of causeries taken from the “Världens gång” page from 1916 and onwards, as well as causeries by the classical columnists Hasse Z, Eld, Kar de Mumma, Bang, Cello, Red Top, Ehrenmark and Jolo.

The dissertation is inspired by the theory and method of dialectics, hermeneutics, genre theory and pragmatics.

KEY WORDS: Causerie, stylistics, textual linguistics, genre analysis, newspaper text, textual interpretation, causerie history.

© Magnus Fernberg

DISTRIBUTION: Institutionen för svenska språket
Box 200
405 30 Göteborg

ISSN: 1652-3105

ISBN: 91-87850-25-7

SÄTTNING: Janne Saaristo

TRYCKNING: Elanders Infologistics Väst AB