

Vithetens koagulerade hjärta

Om avkoloniserade läsningars möjlighet

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Abstract

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The purpose of this dissertation is to read three Swedish-language works of literary fiction from the 20th century in a decolonising way in order to provide insights into what the development of such a reading style entails. With this goal in mind, I make use of theoretical and methodological perspectives taken from decolonial studies, indigenous studies, neomaterialism and critical race- and whiteness studies. The readings of Hjalmar Söderberg's *Doktor Glas* (*Doctor Glas*) (1905), Ludvig Nordström's *Herrar* (*Masters*) (1910) and Karin Boye's *Astarte* (1931) show that the decolonising movement in the texts, identified as the re-establishment of a subjective flow of circular reciprocity between different forms of matter, is limited by the spread of whiteness in them. Although the decolonising reading is able to show the non-colonial becomings of the fictional worlds, it is not able to disarm the coloniality in them. Despite this, the dissertation establishes a type of reading that not only shows aspects of the works that have not previously been noted in research but also a possible path for the responsibility of research in relation to the ongoing decolonisation of the world. The congealed heart of whiteness thus proves not only to be a place in fiction that points to the pseudo-ontological emptiness that is established as a constant incentive for the colonial devouring of non-whiteness, but also a place where the heart's colonial rupture can turn into healing tissue.

Keywords: *Astarte*, Karin Boye, Ch'ixi, Barbara Christian, Coloniality, Companion Species, Decolonial Methodology, Decolonial Readings, Decolonisation, *Doktor Glas*, Donna Haraway, *Herrar*, Indigeneity, Marked Racialization, Material-Semiotic, Modernicoloniality, New Materialism, Rauna Kuokkanen, Ludvig Nordström, Silvia Rivera Cusicanqui, Sápmi, Scandinavian Fiction, Hjalmar Söderberg, Unmarked Racialization, Whiteness