

ABSTRACT

Anxiety and estrangement in Juan Carlos Onetti's works

Key words: Onetti, *The Well*, novel, Eladio Linacero, estrangement, anxiety, loneliness, dreams, Tizón

This work focuses on the literary conception of characters in Onetti's works. Specifically, it converges on anxiety, loneliness and estrangement, which are the central components of the author's prose. Onetti's first-fruit, *The Well*, serves as a starting point. This novel revealed new possible ways of the novel-writing and influenced many other authors. It carries the key issues of Onetti's future work. The novel is sketchy; the images often do not follow each other and they are directed by hidden associations. There appears a new character: urban anti-hero, who escapes from the hostile reality to the fantasy life. The present work features the protagonist of *The Well* with other Onetti's characters. The part dedicated to the style focuses on the relation between form and content. Onetti's books are about misunderstanding which is reflected in the structure and language. In the final chapter of this work is confronted *The Well* with *The Beauty of the World* by Héctor Tizón. Different and in some components similar processes allow to recognize and define Onetti's style and uniqueness better.