

Abstract

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This thesis aims to analyze a picture of common people in two separate well-known Finnish writings. First of them is *The tales of ensign Stål* from Johan Ludvig Runeberg and second is *Red line* from Ilmari Kianto. Both works were created in a different time periods.

The Finnish society in 19th and in the beginning of 20th century was mostly comprised from relatively poor rural people who typically worked in agriculture and describing life of those people was in the same time period very common topic in Finnish literature.

In this thesis the picture of common people is being studied through five main topics. How the common people see dying and death; their relationship towards nature; if they are depicted as brave and heroic or timid and cowardly people; their patriotism and nationalism and also their relationship towards church a clergy.