

**Abstract:**

This thesis focuses on the comparison of two short stories by Angela Carter with the fairy tale on which they are based. It attempts to discern to what extent the author preserved the structure of the fairy tale, as viewed from a linguistic point of view, in her short stories. The thesis also suggests an interpretation of the motivation and effect of the divergences of the structure of the short stories from that of the fairy tale.

The three texts are analysed from three points of view: thematic progressions, discourse subjects and cohesive chains, and cohesive ties. Attention is paid first to the description of the individual texts, and then to the comparison of the three texts. The comparison puts emphasis on the distinction between the short stories on one hand and the fairy tale on the other hand.

The comparison shows that the structure of the fairy tale is to a large extent retained in the short stories, as they share characteristics on all the three levels of analysis. The short stories were found to differ from the fairy tale in two main respects, connected to each other, which influence the differences in their structure: the age of the intended reader, and the context and setting of the story.