

## **Abstract**

This master thesis deals with the analysis of three selected works about the Moomintrolls by the Finland-Swedish author Tove Jansson. The analysis is done from the perspective of the existentialist philosophy of the French philosopher Jean-Paul Sartre. The main emphasis of the analysis lies on researching Sartre's phenomena of the so-called social roles in the Moomin books; the thesis deals with this phenomena and theoretical apparatus related to it – the term of *mauvaise foi* (bad faith), among others – in its first part. The following chapters consist of literary analysis, which is conducted from the perspective of the individual characters. The main goal of the thesis is to show how the characters reflect their being, whether they realize their freedom and whether their acts are authentic or done with bad faith. In addition, the analysis deals also with the topic of existential anxiety.

## **Keywords**

Tove Jansson, Moomins, Finland-Swedish literature, existentialism, Jean-Paul Sartre, social roles, authenticity, bad faith