Death as a Beginning: Transformation of Hades, Persephone and Cleopatra in Children’s and Youth Culture

Viktoryia Bartsevich
University of Warsaw

Karolina Anna Kulpa
University of Warsaw

Agnieszka Monika Maciejewska
University of Warsaw

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Abstract

The motif of ancient beliefs about afterlife and contemporary idea of them appears increasingly in contemporary works directed to young audience. The combination of mythology and history known from ancient sources and popular culture works is essential for reception studies. The paper presents three cases of transformation of characters connected with ancient beliefs about afterlife as protagonists or villains in works directed to youth; Hades as a villain known from Disney’s works, especially *Hercules*; Persephone and Hades’s love story in three web comics: *Underworld Love Story* and *Hades & Persephone Shorts* by Gau Meo and *Hades’ Holiday* by Elvishness; and the way the Cleopatra VII Philopator’s image in *Scooby Doo! in Where’s My Mummy?* is different than others representations of the queen.

Downloads

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