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THE DEEP STRUCTURE OF THE FAIRY TALE NARRATIVE AS A POINTER TO AXIOLOGICALLY SIGNIFICANT CULTURAL MESSAGES ⁹

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Abstract: The paper investigates the role of the deep structure of fairy tale narratives as an important factor in construing culturally significant messages that play an essential role in building and maintaining values and ideologies in different communities and cultures. It compares the findings of Vladimir Prop from his influential study on the Russian folk tales in the Afanasiev's collection of Russian folk tales with the results from a study on the tales in Joseph Jacobs' "English fairy tales". The theoretical underpinnings include A. Greimas' actantial model and Vladimir Prop's classification of fairy tale characters and events according to the main roles and functions they perform in the tales. Conclusions are drawn on the cultural significance of the findings.

Keywords: worldview, values, folk tales, deep structure, Greimas' model, ideology.

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