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### Relation between Tokoku Kitamura's the Song of Peng Lai and Romances of the Period of Tang Dynasty

YANG Ying

This paper aims to discuss the relation between the *Song of Peng Lai* and Chinese romances in the Tang Dynasty by investigating typical Chinese literary elements that can be found in various scenes of Tokoku's poem. The Japanese characters in Tokoku's poem are also similar to Chinese characters in the Chinese romances. Particularly, the common motif of a young man and an old man trying to save him that can be seen both in Tokoku's poem and in the *Zhenzhongji* and the *Duzichun Zhuan* from the Tang Dynasty is suggestive of the influence of these Chinese romances on Tokoku.

#### Osamu Dazai's View of the Seven Sages of the Bamboo Grove

LIU Jinbao

Dazai more than once referred to the Seven Sages of the Bamboo Grove in his essays and letters. They were a group of seven hermits who respected Lao Zhuang (Taoism) and escaped from the secular world to enjoy a free life in the Weijin dynasty. The seven were Ruanji, Jikang, Santao, Liulin, Ruanxian, Xiangxiu, Wangrong. They are said to have always gathered in a bamboo grove to drink alcohol and converse. This paper will attempt to explain how Dazai thought of them and through what sources he formed his concept of them.

# Ineko Sata's Travel to Korea and her Understanding of the Colony as Seen through her Essays

**ZHAO Ke** 

Three months after her literary debut, Ineko Sata published two proletarian poems, *Korean Girls I* and *Korean Girls II*, and it was from this time that she began to show strong interest in Korea. She often featured Koreans in her stories before the Second World War.

During the war, she traveled to Korea twice, in June 1940 and in June 1941, and wrote five essays: Korean Children and others, Impressions of Korea, Korean Shaman, At Diamond Mountain and Things in Korea.

This paper examines how she described Korea and how she was not entirely free from certain prejudiced opinions regarding the Colony.

## Influence of Simone de Beauvoir on Yumiko Kurahashi: A Comparison of La Force de l'âge and Dark Journey

#### Liu Miaomiao

In Yumiko Kurahashi's first full-length novel *Dark Journey*, published in October 1961, the relationship between Jean-Paul Sartre and Simone de Beauvoir is repeatedly mentioned, and Kurahashi's hero and heroine certainly have a similar relationship to that of the couple depicted in Beauvoir's *La Force de l'âge*. However, few studies have ever focused on the relevance of Beauvoir's autobiographical volume to Kurahashi's novel. In this paper, by comparing the two writings, I analyze how in that period Kurahashi's views on love, marriage and maternity were influenced by those of Beauvoir.

### Some Images Suggesting the Post-circle in T. S. Eliot's Middle Poems

#### **KOGA Motoaki**

T. S. Eliot's (1888-1965) mid-period poems are, "The Hollow Men" (1925), "Journey of the Magi" (1927), "A Song for Simeon" (1927), "Animula" (1929), Ash-Wednesday (1930), and "Marina" (1930).

"The Hollow Men" describes both circular images suggesting the repetition of a decaying society, and post-circular images oriented in vain to transcend a decaying society. "Journey of the Magi," "A Song for Simeon," and "Animula" convey the spiritual rebirth of men, reflecting Eliot's conversion to Anglicanism in 1927. *Ash-Wednesday* and "Marina" deal with the move from spiritual emptiness in life to hope for human salvation. These six poems gradually strengthen his post-circular images.

## "Father" in Kazuo Ishiguro's Novels: a Comparison of a Father-and-Child Relationship and Grandfather-and-Grandchild Relationship Focusing on The Unconsoled

#### **TAKETOMI Ria**

In Kazuo Ishiguro's *The Unconsoled*, it is obvious that Boris indicates his hunger for his father's love. For example, Boris carries around the second-hand handiwork manual which his father gave him for his birthday. When his father is away from home, he creates a story in his head to fight the mobs away with his grandfather, so that his father will come back home safely. These are the reasons why the protagonist has been compared to the central character of Kafka's *The Trial*.

In this paper, however, I am not going to base my argument on the Oedipus struggle or father-complex as many scholars have done. Instead I will compare the father-and-son relationship and grandfather-and-grandson relationship in Ishiguro's novels and consider the meaning of "Father" in *The Unconsoled*.