

Conceptual Metaphors of Romantic Love in Western Comic and Japanese Manga



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CONCEPTUAL METAPHORS OF ROMANTIC LOVE IN WESTERN COMIC AND JAPANESE MANGA

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GRIN Verlag Nov 2011, 2011. Taschenbuch. Book Condition: Neu. 297x210x5 mm. This item is printed on demand - Print on Demand Neuware - Seminar paper from the year 2009 in the subject Communications - Broadcast and entertainment, grade: 1,0, University of Groningen (Faculty of Arts), course: Language, Communication and Culture, language: English, abstract: According to Lakoff and Johnson (1980), metaphors involve a mapping of a tangible source domain on an intangible target domain and enable therefore the expression of concepts difficult to verbalise as such. ROMANTIC LOVE is one of these concepts. Indeed, romantic love is commonly thought of as a mysterious emotion which it is notoriously difficult to pin down. [] Various authors in various disciplines have expressed the view that this is a concept that is difficult to grapple with and define (Kövecses, 1986). By analysing the conceptual metaphors used to describe ROMANTIC LOVE in conventionalised language, Kövecses succeeded to describe the constituents and structure of this concept. Kövecses research on the concept of ROMANTIC LOVE and the cultural variation of metaphor is based exclusively on verbal evidence. As Charles Forceville (2005:69) acknowledged, in the interest of enriching insights into ideological conceptual metaphors, non-verbal and multimedial representations need to be investigated as well ; mostly in order to break the vicious cycle of saying that verbal metaphoric expressions are evidence of conceptual metaphors, and then saying that we know that because we see conceptual metaphors expressed in language (Cienki, 1998). The present paper aims to extend Kövecses research by analysing the visual expression of ROMANTIC LOVE and its cross-cultural variation in comics. Indeed, as Forceville (2005:71) mentioned, comics are a good source of pictorial data for such a project: unlike, for instance, realistic photographs and live-action films, which are more or less naturally mirror real-life manifestations of...

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