

Philosophy off/in a story: A philosophical-aesthetic reading of works

by Ayn Rand in the context of popular culture

Objectivism. Popular culture. Philosophy. Ideology.

In the paper we try to explain that the fictional works of Ayn Rand *The Fountainhead* and *Atlas Shrugged* are philosophical novels to the extent they are genre novels. Besides this, we found that techniques pertaining to popular literature and popular culture are used and their philosophical dimension can be functionally identified as an overlap of an ideological-ethical nature. Therefore Ayn Rand can be regarded as a “popular-philosophical” writer but not directly a philosopher, even though she demonstrated this ambition.

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