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***Lidenkova O. A. Religious Motives and Symbols in European Literary Ballad***

The article traces elements of religious belief and Christian symbols in romantic literary ballad. Such motives are realised on the structural level, as well as through the themes of symbolisation and direct use of Biblical symbols. Some of these elements reflect differences of cultural tradition. Themes of nature and childhood do not get in Belarusian ballads the religious implications typical for English texts. Although on the whole almost all ballad texts convey traits of common Christian heritage. Thus, special emphasis is given to the religious and philosophical message of the text.

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