

Abstract

Authors are not absent from the pages they craft; they have an intended audience, and they hold and communicate particular values as they generate narratives for this audience. When authors hold identities that place them outside of the community about which they write, authorial ideology and intention carry additional weight that, in the context of immigration narratives, influences assumptions of place brought to bear in telling stories of leaving and finding “home.”

This content analysis draws upon paratexts and materials included on an author’s website to explore constructions of place in an award-winning, young adult (YA) immigration narrative, including how authorship informs the presentation of place and the protagonist who inhabits it.

The paper works to extend existing understandings by examining not only what happens to *characters* as they navigate place in YA literature, but what *authors* bring to these titles in the act of constructing these characters.

Keywords: International; literature; theory