Other Worlds – Relics of Pagan Beliefs in Polish Folk Culture

Abstract:

This paper is an attempt at looking at a phenomenon of ambivalence in viewing death and an existence of non-Christian belief relics concerning the location of other world lands present in Polish folk culture. Even today, the folk memory contains some strong beliefs in places of mediation between the world of the living and the world of the dead. We will trace this phenomenon using folk demonology, especially the 'Land of the Water Demon' as an example.

Keywords: *other world, mediation sphere, water demon, communal memory in Polish folk culture, the meaning of death.*