

Bahram Tavakkoli and Tennessee Williams:

A Comparative Study of the Image of Mother in the Iranian Cinema Adaptations of the World Literature

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Abstract

The present article launches a comparative study on the image of mother in the Iranian cinema adaptations of the world literature. To this end, the movie, *Here Without Me* (2011), directed by Bahram Tavakkoli, will be analyzed. This movie is an adaptation of Tennessee Williams's play, *The Glass Menagerie*. While the image of mother has always been considered significant by the Iranian authors and directors, there has been no study on this image in the Iranian cinema adaptations of the world literature. This paper, first using Linda Hutcheon's 'theory of adaptation', considers the processes by which a book is adapted into a film and compares the two plots. Then, highlighting the cultural aspects of the two works, it analyzes the image of mother in the framework of the film and literary text in order to investigate the cultural similarities and differences regarding the concept of mother. The results of the study, also, highlight the significance of the adaptation studies of the books and their adapted films in the light of cultural studies. In addition, they pave the way for the similar studies regarding the shared concepts in Bahram Tavakkoli and other directors and authors in the world cinema and literature.

Keywords: Comparative Literature, Adaptation Criticism, Culture, *Here Without Me*, Bahram Tavakkoli, *The Glass Menagerie*, Tennessee Williams

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