

## Master's Thesis Abstract

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### Title

About the originality of literary style and relations about the private fictions that can make observation from "*student council president*" written by Ogawa Kunio as collection of short stories

The purpose of this thesis is to present that to consider questions about an originality of his literary style in the history of Japanese literature and to reveal relations about private novels can make observation from "*student council president*" written by Ogawa Kunio as collection of short stories.

His style classified into three kinds of works: some stories described themes of the bible; short stories look like novels based on the author's own life; and works created on the scene of the Ooi River Basin where he was born.

Ogawa Kunio has been influenced by the style of Shiga Naoya who is a representative author of private novels and was strongly attracted by him. Therefore, it has been frequently analyzed and said this context that Ogawa Kunio is a Japanese Catholic author, or otherwise, it has been argued that he is an author described his own life.

However, there are different opinions between the author and scholars who study him because scholars regard his works as the "private fictions," nevertheless, Ogawa declared these all works to be a style of autobiographical to the end. Consequently, it needs to verify whether these works should consider an autobiographical one or not.

The literary style of Ogawa Kunio different from private fictions because it composes special structure of stories. If we focus on collection of short stories "*student council president*," the narrative structure of the short stories is multi-layered. This is distinctly different from the simple narrative structure found in private fictions.

A characteristic of Ogawa's literary style is the multiple ways that he describes his own existence. And this literary style of writing allows for a multi-layered portrayal of personal identity. The above awareness can be appreciated as a progressive attempt as well as a postmodern sense.

His literary style is often criticized for its lack of political and social commentary. However, his sense of postmodernity is a rebuttal of the modern ego. Therefore, it would be thoughtless to consider his literary style as introverted.

For this reason, the opinion that Ogawa Kunio's works are to be regarded as private novels is not very appropriate. Because of the originality of his literary style, we believe that his classification should be revised in the future.