

[“Brave and Frail and Hopeful”: The Motif of Communication in Selected Short Stories of A. L. Kennedy]

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[Abstract] *The present paper analyses the motif of communication using the example of three selected short stories by the Scottish woman writer A. L. Kennedy. The aim of the analysis is to trace the development of this motif over the course of Kennedy’s writing career. For this purpose, the stories for examination are selected from Kennedy’s first published collection, from her middle period and from her most recent collection. A close reading of the stories reveals a tentative development from solipsism through one-sided communication towards a dialogue where both parties are on a par.*

[Keywords] *A. L. Kennedy; Scottish literature; short story; communication*