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English 205, World Lit

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Annotated Bibliography

Works Cited

- Akima, Toshio. "The Songs of the Dead: Poetry, Drama, and Ancient Death Rituals of Japan." *The Journal of Asian Studies (pre-1986)* 41.3 (1982): 485-. *ABI/INFORM Research*. Web. 13 Nov. 2011.
- Bloom, Harold. *The Tale of Genji: Bloom's Modern Critical Interpretations*. Philadelphia: Chelsea House Publishers, 2004. Print.
- Brower, Robert, and Roy Miner Earl. "Formative Elements in the Japanese Poetic Tradition." *The Journal of Asian Studies (pre-1986)* 16.4 (1957): 503-. *ABI/INFORM Research*. Web. 12 Nov. 2011.
- Hibbett, Howard. *The Floating World in Japanese Fiction*. Vermont: Tuttle Publishing, 2001. Print.
- Hirota, Akiko. "The Tale of Genji: From Heian Classic to Heisei Comic." *Journal of Popular Culture* 31.2 (1997): 29-68. *ProQuest Research Library*. Web. 12 Nov. 2011.
- Kato, Shuichu. *A history of Japanese Literature: The First Thousand Years*. Trans. David Chibbett. London: Macmillan Press United, 1979. Print.
- Knapp, Bettina. "Lady Murasaki Shikibu's the Tale of Genji: Search for the Mother." *Symposium* 46.1 (1992): 34-. *ProQuest Research Library*. Web. 11 Nov. 2011.
- Miner, Earl. *An Introduction to Japanese Court Poetry*. California: Stanford University Press, 1968. Print.
- Shikibu, Murasaki. *The Tale of Genji*. Trans. Robert Tyler. New York:Penguin Putnam Inc., 2001. Print.
- Wren, James. "Salty Seaweed, Absent Women, and Song: Authorizing the Female as Poet in the Izayoi Nikki." *Criticism* 39.2 (1997): 185-204. *ProQuest Research Library*. Web. 13 Nov. 2011.

General Notes:

Akima, Toshio. "The Songs of the Dead: Poetry, Drama, and Ancient Death Rituals of Japan." *The Journal of Asian Studies* (pre-1986) 41.3 (1982): 485-. *ABI/INFORM Research*. Web. 13 Nov. 2011.

This article presents and discusses poems and songs that are found in Noh literature. Although not directly related to the "Tale of Genji," the article highlights meanings of words and phrases within various poems and is thus appropriate for my research.

Bloom, Harold. *The Tale of Genji: Bloom's Modern Critical Interpretations*. Philadelphia: Chelsea House Publishers, 2004. Print.

This book looks at the "Tale of Genji" and the different themes that are presented, including an in-depth chapter dissecting some of the poetry found in the tale. The book is written well, and relates directly to my research.

Brower, Robert, and Roy Miner Earl. "Formative Elements in the Japanese Poetic Tradition." *The Journal of Asian Studies* (pre-1986) 16.4 (1957): 503-. *ABI/INFORM Research*. Web. 12 Nov. 2011.

This article discusses the formation of Japanese poetry, looking at how the verses are put together as well as the different styles that result from the verse choices. The article is quite long, and sometimes a little technical, but explains all the concepts involved quite clearly. The subject matter of this article relates directly to my research.

Hibbett, Howard. *The Floating World in Japanese Fiction*. Vermont: Tuttle Publishing, 2001. Print.

This book discusses in length "The Floating World" and all its various aspects. There are a few parts of this that relate directly to the "Tale of Genji," and to poems, but the book concentrates more on the floating world itself (and some allusions to it in literary works), and less on how it appears in other contexts. The text tends to be more technical than would be required for an undergrad level.

Hirota, Akiko. "The Tale of Genji: From Heian Classic to Heisei Comic." *Journal of Popular Culture* 31.2 (1997): 29-68. *ProQuest Research Library*. Web. 12 Nov. 2011.

This article focuses entirely on the "Tale of Genji" and its treatment from its inception to present times. Although there is not much mention of poetry, and the reading level is much more general, this article is of interest because I first discovered the "Tale of Genji" in one of the more modern forms the article discusses.

Kato, Shuichu. *A history of Japanese Literature: The First Thousand Years*. Trans. David Chibbett. London: Macmillan Press United, 1979. Print.

This book is more general than I would have preferred, but it does include a treatment on the "Tale of Genji." It is an easy read, but informative nonetheless.

Knapp, Bettina. "Lady Murasaki Shikibu's the Tale of Genji: Search for the Mother." *Symposium* 46.1 (1992): 34-. *ProQuest Research Library*. Web. 11 Nov. 2011.

This article discusses at length Genji's search for a wife who resembled his long dead mother. Very little (if any) of the text mentions poems, but it is a fascinating analysis of Genji's Oedipus complex, and since the article focuses on the main or most important love story, it really helps to round out an understanding of the story, Genji's motivations, and decisions.

Miner, Earl. *An Introduction to Japanese Court Poetry*. California: Stanford University Press, 1968. Print.

This book, while not dealing with the "Tale of Genji" exclusively, does go into great depths on the court poetry of the time, how it was used, and what is meant in various poems.

Shikibu, Murasaki. *The Tale of Genji*. Trans. Robert Tyler. New York: Penguin Putnam Inc., 2001. Print.

This is the actual unabridged book in two volumes. I chose this version because the translator translated the poems with the right amount of syllables.

Wren, James. "Salty Seaweed, Absent Women, and Song: Authorizing the Female as Poet in the Izayoi Nikki." *Criticism* 39.2 (1997): 185-204. *ProQuest Research Library*. Web. 13 Nov. 2011.

This article has nothing to say about the "Tale of Genji," but it does deal with the subject of women as poets, mentioning the differences between using the Chinese and Japanese language, and difficulties such women had to overcome. The article is interesting because the poems it discusses were used as a means of communication but dealt with issues other than love.

Expanded Notes:

Akima, Toshio. "The Songs of the Dead: Poetry, Drama, and Ancient Death Rituals of Japan." *The Journal of Asian Studies* (pre-1986) 41.3 (1982): 485-. ABI/INFORM Research. Web. 13 Nov. 2011.

This article presents and discusses poems and songs that are found in Noh literature. Although not directly related to the "Tale of Genji", the article highlights meanings of words and phrases within various poems and is thus appropriate for my research. The selection of poems are given side by side in both English and Japanese, and begin with some earlier forms that represent a transitory stage between folk, lyric, and refined poetry. The text then gives some historical context regarding ancient funerary custom, so as to set the stage for the other poems to follow. The form (such as tanka, etc.) is given attention, and each poem, or set of poems has head and end notes that tell the reader what the poem is about. The article then explains both the poem and the notes together.

The article also mentions several poems that either have been misread, or have alternate translations, and so corrects or improves upon them. After the poems, there is a lot of technical and historical text regarding Noh drama. The author presents his own interpretations of certain works, but is careful to include what scholars have to say about each work. The article is very thorough and well researched, and whilst not dealing with the "Tale of Genji" directly, includes important aspects about Japanese poetry that a Japanese audience would automatically know.

Bloom, Harold. *The Tale of Genji: Bloom's Modern Critical Interpretations*. Philadelphia: Chelsea House Publishers, 2004. Print.

This book looks at the "Tale of Genji" and the different themes that are presented, including an in-depth chapter dissecting some of the poetry found in the tale. In fact, each chapter is a different analysis by a different author on some aspect of the tale.

Although quite detailed, with ample illustrations drawn from the novel, the chapters are very clearly written and give the reader an in-depth understanding into not only Genji's psyche, but how the language and manners of the time play into the narrative. This book is written at a college level, although it is accessible to anyone who really wishes to understand the "Tale of Genji" as a whole.

Brower, Robert, Roy Miner Earl. "Formative Elements in the Japanese Poetic Tradition." *The Journal of Asian Studies* (pre-1986) 16.4 (1957): 503-. ABI/INFORM Research. Web. 12 Nov. 2011.

This article discusses the formation of Japanese poetry, looking at how the verses are put together as well as the different styles that result from the verse choices. After a brief introduction, the article starts with perhaps the most important aspect, the language, and goes into minute detail, examining various poems to demonstrate what the authors are talking about. From the language, the article flows naturally on to what the language is used for – that is, metaphor and allegory.

Finally the authors present and discuss the use, both public and private of Japanese poetry, ending with a discussion on the development through the ages of this poetry. Although a very long article, all the concepts involved are explained quite clearly, and offers valuable insight to the use of poetry in the context of the "Tale of Genji."

Miner, Earl. *An Introduction to Japanese Court Poetry*. California: Stanford University Press, 1968. Print.

This book, while not dealing with the "Tale of Genji" exclusively, does go into great depths on the court poetry of the time, how it was used, and what is meant in various poems. It is similar to "Formative Elements in the Japanese Poetic Tradition" as it discusses meaning and word usage, but here the author and translator (who are the same) have narrowed their focus to court poetry, and use poems from that context, citing various novels, including the "Tale of Genji" and "The Pillow Book." What is particularly nice is the presence of a section on major poets (which include Murasaki-Hime) from 1241 to 1500.