

Abstract:

This paper focuses on the American Dream, both as a philosophical concept and as a mindset that provided strength and hope to post-World War II American generations. While many aspired to achieve success through their own efforts, Truman Capote, in his first non-fiction novel *In Cold Blood*, deconstructs this myth by depicting the tragic story of the Clutter family, a symbol of the American Dream, whose fate ends in a dramatic and senseless manner. The article examines the ways in which the American Dream is reflected in American society, analyzing whether it is truly attainable or merely an illusion by correlating real-life observations with the events presented in *In Cold Blood*.

Key words: crisis, American Dream, postwar America, society