

Lying and Creating. Approximations to Felisberto Hernández and Juan Carlos Onetti (By Jorge Téllez Vargas)

The relationship between lies and fiction is an ingrained motive in Spanish-American literature of the 20th c. In Felisberto Hernández and Juan Carlos Onetti, it takes on a fundamental importance, as long as we understand it as the second diegetical plane of a number of their texts. In the short stories here analyzed, Hernández's "La envenenada" (1931) and Onetti's "Un sueño realizado" this relationship of lies and fiction is expressed through dramatic images put on scene that could well be understood as the very poetics of the texts. In both writers, the diegetic unfolding can be understood as the exercise of an essential right of any narrator: the parallel creation of worlds in search of artistic freedom. The main interest of this article is focused on the analysis of the features that permit such unfolding and in the relationship that is established between the poetics of both writers.

Key words: River Plate literature, Spanish-American short story, scene setting, representation, unfolding