



Scheherazade's Daughters: The Power of Storytelling in Ecofeminist Change (Studies on Themes and Motifs in Literature)

Barbara Bennett

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Scheherazade, the storyteller of *1001 Arabian Nights*, recounts stories literally to save her people, and in *Scheherazade's Daughters*, Barbara Bennett explores how contemporary female authors attempt to save their own world by telling compelling stories that disseminate ideas of justice and equality for all living things, a philosophy called ecofeminism. Bennett examines how ecofeminism works in works by Margaret Atwood (*Surfacing*, *The Handmaid's Tale*, and *Oryx & Crake*), Barbara Kingsolver (*Animal Dreams*, *The Poisonwood Bible*, and *Prodigal Summer*), and Ruth Ozeki (*My Year of Meats* and *All over Creation*). Bennett also analyzes ecofeminism in autobiography and memoir in Terry Tempest Williams' *Refuge*, Janisse Ray's *Ecology of a Cracker Childhood*, and Sandra Steingraber's *Living Downstream*. Lastly through Isabel Allende's *House of the Spirits*, Ana Castillo's *So Far from God*, and Toni Morrison's *Beloved*, Bennett investigates how magical realism can spread the positive ideas of ecofeminism. This groundbreaking book dissects the power of literature to convert minds and hearts in a direction that has the potential, like Scheherazade's stories, to change our world for the better.

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