

## **Nobuhiro Fukushima**

### Happy ending as a problem of modern literature

The novel *Macunaíma* by Mário de Andrade, one of the representatives of Brazilian modernism, is mosaically composed of the legends of the Brazilian Indios. However, when trying to analyze its structure as legend or fairy tale, we encounter a gap between the 'cyclical time' of the story (myths and fairy tales) and the 'linear time' of modern literature (novels).

One of the reasons why a happy ending has become increasingly difficult for modern literature and other contemporary genres may lie in this gap. Referring to this hypothesis, which takes into account Georgy Lukacs' theory of the novel and Walter Benjamin's theory of the story, we shall try to describe the 'time' of the novel according to its genre, taking into account especially its close relationship with death and memory.