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Helsingin yliopiston päärakennus, Sali U3040 tai etäyhteydellä (Zoom)

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Transparency of Neapolitan in Elena Ferrante's novels: lines of an authorial evolution

After the publishing world registered the so-called "Ferrante fever", numerous articles appeared by scholars who dealt with a particularly important issue in the context of Elena Ferrante's authorial language, namely the non-explicit, but mostly "described" presence of the (Neapolitan) dialect in her narrative works. These articles are mostly related to the novels of the so-called "Neapolitan quartet", and to them are added several studies (mostly of an informative or popular nature) focusing on what happened in the television adaptation of the aforementioned novels, that is, the explicit use of the Neapolitan dialect in the tv-series dialogues. The question can, however, be broadened by including in the analysis of this phenomenon both her works preceding the "Neapolitan quartet" (The days of abandonment, Troubling love, The lost daughter) and the novel "The lying life of adults", to investigate the following:

- how is the dialect described when it is only reported in the narration?
- what are the parts in which the dialect manages to permeate the otherwise standard language used for the narration?
- how does the relationship between characters and language(s) evolve over the continuum described by these eight narrative works?