

A World under Surveillance: A Foucauldian Reading of Thomas Hardy's The Return of the Native

Ioana Eparu

Petroleum-Gas University of Ploiești, 39, Bvd. București

E-mail: ioana_792003@yahoo.com

Keywords panoptic, gaze, punishment, Foucault, Hardy.

Abstract

This paper focuses on the concepts of Panopticon, panoptic gaze, discipline and punishment as reflected in Foucault's work *Discipline and Punish*. This Foucauldian schema is applied to Thomas Hardy's *The Return of the Native*, a Victorian omniscient narration which confers a panoptic view of the world it holds under surveillance