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**Functionality of “Someone Else’s Word” in the Literary Text  
(Based on the Essay of N.S. Leskov “Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk”)**

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**Key words and phrases:** antithetical poetics; ballad song; biblical reminiscences; intertext; “someone else’s word”.

**Abstract:** This article analyzes the functionality of the folklore and biblical intertext in N.S. Leskov's works on the example of the essay “Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk”. The essence of collision and confrontation between the two linguistic elements – pagan and Christian by using “someone else’s words” has been revealed.

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