

## ANALYSIS OF ALAIN MABANCKOU'S BLUE-BLANC-ROUGE AS A FLIPSIDE WORK

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### **ABSTRACT**

*Victims of social existence emanate from various determinants such as wars and other forms of violence particularly structural violence (abject poverty, hunger, unemployment, squander-mania) etc. but in the present study principally from migration. The objective of the present research is to examine with scrutiny Bleu-blanc-rouge, the debut novel of the Congolese and Migritude writer Alain Mabanckou to find out if it qualifies or not as a flipside work. Flipside Literary Theory is applied to the novel. It is established that Bleu-blanc-rouge is a flipside work in the sense that it meets up with all the three criteria necessary for judging and classifying a literary work as a flipside literature, viz.: it has a flipside protagonist in its plot, Moki by name, who remains a flipside character rather than flip view till the unraveling of the plot despite the significant changes he makes in flipside societies both at home and in Paris. It is also found that Moki's disposition towards other victims of social existence is favorable and empowering in his community in Congo Brazzaville but partly favorable and empowering and favorable and disempowering in Paris. Furthermore, the disposition of Préfet, another flipside character in the plot, towards other victims of social existence is unfavorable and disempowering vis-à-vis his family members and community in Congo Bazzaville but partly favorable and empowering and favorable and disempowering in relation to the flipside society in Paris. While condemning the fraudulent disposition of African immigrants in Paris, Alain Mabanckou castigates the French authorities for the thingification and marginalization of these immigrants. In so doing, he sensitizes the public to the need to give a lot more attention to immigrants in a bid to alleviate their despicable plight and make life better for them in the host countries. He also uses it as an arm of combat to discourage young Africans from embarking on the migratory adventure having successfully debunked the myth of a paradisiacal Europe.*

**KEYWORDS:** *Flipside Work, Flipside Literary Theory, Flipside Protagonist, Flipside Society, Flip View Society, Victims of Social Existence*