

# Of Brotherhood And Violence: Reading Masculine Homosocial Bonds in Jo Nesbo's *Macbeth*

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**Abstract :**

The paper studies Norwegian crime-fiction writer Jo Nesbo's *Macbeth* (2018). *Macbeth, a Nordic Noir*; is the fifth instalment of the Hogarth-Shakespeare series, and is a retelling of Shakespeare's *Macbeth* (1603). The study attempts to understand the correlation of masculinity and violence, in *Macbeth*, vis-à-vis its ties with notions of "brotherhood". Judith Butler's theory of gender performativity, Raewyn Connell's Hegemonic Masculinity and Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick's idea about the "unbrokenness of a continuum between homosocial and homosexual" have been employed to explore the homosocial spaces in Nesbo's narrative. The paper argues that in Nesbo's *Macbeth*, bonds of brotherhood incite the 'brothers' into performing their masculinity through acts of violence.

**Keywords:** Crime fiction, Masculinity, Homosociality, Brotherhood, Violence