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## **NEGATIVE ETHNIC STEREOTYPES AS AN EXAMPLE OF LEGEND ON LATVIAN WOMAN WHO REJECT POLE**

**Abstract:** Do stigmatising national stereotype arises from ignorance? In 1927 Latvian bard Janis Rainis wrote play “Love stronger than death”, gaining soon national legend, with a quality of historic fact. Here the Polish noble provoke death of teenager Rose of

Turaida. Rainis probably copied the plot from XVI c. story written by M. Bielski or by later poetry of Baltic Germans of XVIII/XIX c. This stereotype became important in Latvian culture and history. But phenomenon is larger & more important, especially as image of Poles.

**Keywords:** negative & ethnic stereotype, national minorities, Janis Rainis, Rose of Turaida.

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