SUMMARY

Xiao Hong (1911-1942) represents a prominent fiction writer of North-East China. She started writing novels and short stories during the thirties which were well received and highly recommended by eminent literary reviewers such as Lu Xun, Hu Feng and Mao Dun. Lu Xun even suggested to Edgar Snow, a scholar of America, that Xiao Hong could well be in the ranks of acclaimed writer Ding Ling.

Unfortunately, Xiao Hong passed away in her late thirties and interests in her works slowly deteriorated. Eventually her works were overlooked and considered unimportant amongst literary scholars. One of the reasons being the fact that most scholars took for granted that her works merely reflected the general anti-Japanese sentiments of the era.

However, Xiao Hong's works exemplify more literary values than earlier thought stemming from very personal emotions and sentiments especially in relation to her locality. One of the outstanding features of her works is the beautiful prose-like construction used to express the melancholy experiences in life.

In the seventies, through the studies of Howard Goldblatt and other scholars, it was recognized that Xiao Hong's novels and stories are more than a simple treatment of anti-Japanese feelings. This thesis, inspired by such studies, is a closer examination of the significance of regionalism in Xiao Hong's works and its influence on her emotions.

This thesis concludes that the feelings and discretion are deep rooted in her heart. Sentiments that are strongly related to a region go beyond physical space and time. Therefore a full understanding of the regionalism of Xiao Hong's fiction is very important.