

POSUDEK BAKALÁŘSKÉ PRÁCE

Jméno a příjmení studenta: Eva BAKULOVÁ
Název bakalářské práce: Search for Truth in Saul Bellow's *Dangling Man*,
Herzog and *Henderson the Rain King*
Vedoucí bakalářské práce: PhDr. Christopher KOY, M.A., Ph.D.

I. Cíl práce a jeho naplnění: 1. Cíl práce byl stanoven a naplněn v souladu s tématem

II. Struktura práce: 1. Logická, jasná a přehledná

III. Práce s literaturou: 1. Výborná: zvoleny a použity vhodné prameny v patřičném rozsahu

IV. Formální stránka: 1. Odpovídá všem stanoveným požadavkům

VI. Jazyková úroveň práce: 1. Výborná

VII. Náročnost zpracování tématu: 1. Velmi vysoká

Vyjádření vedoucího bakalářské práce:

This is one of the best written bak. práce I have ever read (and I have taught at university in the ČR since 1994 and have supervised about 50 of them). The sophistication of the task at hand was arduous: philosophical ruminations of Saul Bellow, one of the principal intellectual Jewish novelists (and Nobel Prize winner) in the United States. The erudite language level is distinguished by nearly flawless grammar, and the interpretations of the novels which, with the exception of *Henderson the Rain King*, do not have much "action" in the plot, are original and thought-provoking.

If there is any criticism to be leveled it would be the rather uneven treatment of the novels at hand: *Dangling Man* (1944) received a mere 4½ pp. of analysis while *Henderson the Rain King* (1959) enjoyed 16 pp. of solid analysis and *Herzog* (1964) 11 pp. which does not equate to the length or level of difficulty of the respective novels, so I would have preferred greater attention paid to Bellow's first novel, *Dangling Man*. Among the most difficult aspects of criticism of authors we really enjoy which is also missing here is admission of the author's failure(s), such as a poor presentation of character or plot development.

There is a brilliant use of secondary literature but Ms. Bakulová does not rely so heavily on them for her own fertile interpretation. It is masterfully structured and very clearly written, In conclusion, the amount of research conducted and the clarity of presentation, fine organization and thoughtful analysis are all most impressive indeed. This work demonstrates extensive reading and analysis of

Bellow's significant contributions to literature on the part of the author. It is a work Ms. Bakulová can be proud of.

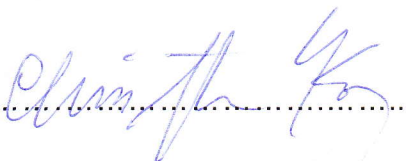
Práce splňuje základní požadavky kladené na tento typ prací, a proto ji doporučuji k ústní obhajobě.

Navrhovaná známka: výborně

Otázky k obhajobě:

1. In *Dangling Man*, *Herzog* and *Henderson the Rain King*, the narrator's conclusions about truth are not as sophisticated as the path they all take to reach these different truths. Do you agree or disagree with critics who have stated that they felt „disappointed” with relatively simple concluding „truths” at the end of Bellow's novels and why (or why not)?
2. Do you regard the notion of “being people” (as opposed to “becoming people” – in section 3.6 of your *Henderson the Rain King* analysis) as something which applies to our modern, “high-tech” life experiences? Do you believe that only in poorer rural places (Africa or in India, for instance) that such a “philosophy” can really be put into practice?

Podpis vedoucího bakalářské práce:



Datum: 13.5.2013

*nehodící se škrtněte