

POSUDEK DIPLOMOVÉ PRÁCE

Jméno a příjmení studenta: Bc. Tereza Richtrová
Název diplomové práce: Southern Gothic: Macabre Heroes in Toole's Neon Bible and
McCarthy's Child of God
Vedoucí diplomové práce: Mgr. Linda Kocmichová
Oponent diplomové 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, přesná práce s citacemi, kritická analýza zdrojů

IV. Prezentace a interpretace dat: 2. Velmi dobrá prezentace dat, úspěšný pokus o jejich interpretaci

V. Formální stránka: 1. Odpovídá všem stanoveným požadavkům

VI. Jazyková úroveň práce: 2. Velmi dobrá

VII. Náročnost zpracování tématu: 1. Velmi vysoká

VIII. Přínosy práce: 1. Originální zpracování a názory, předkládá nová zjištění

Vyjádření vedoucího diplomové práce/oponenta diplomové práce*:

There is a very lengthy background chapter which is heavy on literary history but light on theory, so I will comment on the literary history here. I would have included E. A. Poe on your list of early Southern Gothic writers described on p. 15. The exclusion of African American writers in defining „southern writers“ is fine (p. 11) but then why does the author then include the African American writer Charles Chesnutt (p.19) in the discussion of plantation literature? Moreover, both Zora Neale Hurston and Richard Wright wrote

southern novels with only white characters, so it breaks the exclusionary principle offered. Harriet Beecher Stowe lived most of her life in Connecticut and her best-selling novel *Uncle Tom's Cabin* is usually placed among the sub-genre ABOLITIONIST NOVELS and not plantation literature as it is situated in this mini-Southern literature history; plantation literature is defined in part on p. 19 as follows: it „depicts the Southern region in an idealized way“ so I can only infer from this that you have not read *Uncle Tom's Cabin* since the exact opposite of „idealized“ is Harriet Beecher Stowe's depiction! (Likewise she is not included among the four author's listed as critical of slavery.)

Slave narratives are not „fiction...based on accuracy and real facts“ but are nonfictional and autobiographical. Added to the good points made in 1.2.7 I would suggest adding that Western fiction also characteristically maintain a philosophical view of good vs evil which is divorced from biblical dogma but more closely related to male chivalrous behavior and female self-sacrifice as in Bret Harte or some Western works by O'Henry or Mark Twain.

On p. 11 the author accurately states that McCarthy was born in Rhode Island but on p. 28 she states that „he was born in the region“ [Appalachia] !!! Since he is central to your thesis, the facts should be kept straight about the basics of his biography. Some dates are inaccurate regarding slavery> the Jamestown colony has slaves before 1620 and the Spanish brought slaves to America in the 14th century. St. Augustine, Florida has a Spanish fortress still standing today which was built back then by African slaves.

I enjoyed the chapters analyzing the two novels very much. Minor errors in English do not disrupt the flow of the writing and the effort is highly commendable.

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

Navrhovaná známka: výborně *

Otázky k obhajobě:

1. You write that „Southern postmodernism comes to life in 1963“ so could you explain the basis for that claim?
2. The violence of Southern Gothic is enormous, and much of it focuses on **body mutilation** which is particularly vicious and painful. Who are predecessors of McCarthy in this motif?

Podpis oponenta diplomové práce*: 

Datum: 27. 5. 2016

*nehodící se škrtněte