

POSUDEK DIPLOMOVÉ PRÁCE

Jméno a příjmení studenta: bc. Ivana LANŠTIÁK
Název diplomové práce: Orphans in Canadian literature
Vedoucí diplomové práce: PhDr. Christopher Koy, M.A., Ph.D.
Oponent diplomové práce: Regina Anna Helal, M.A.

- 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: 1. Systematická, logická prezentace, originální a důsledná interpretace
- V. Formální stránka: 2. Obsahuje drobné formální chyby
- 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 *:

This very long diploma thesis on Canadian orphans in fiction is both original and fascinating and Miss Lanštiak has done an excellent job analyzing how orphans are represented in a fairly large number of literary works. There is not only a clear understanding demonstrated in the interpretation of the novels, but the author anchors her analysis on psychological and sociological theories concerning the specified theme of orphans. She shows by means of her utilized theories how differently orphans represented in fiction confront their often very difficult fate based on their difficult family circumstances. In the seven novels she encountered so many assortments of literary styles which also made her task arduous. Obviously Miss Lanštiak worked with 20th century Canadian novels, most of which have not been translated into Czech. Furthermore, she had limited resources of secondary literature, so that in contrast to possibly the majority of diploma theses in literature, she had no "crutches" to rely on and was required to do fully independent and original research for the seven works. Hence, she may well be said to have done truly original research not only in

the Czech Republic, but, if I may assert, original in Central Europe. Unlike many diploma works I have read, where there is a tendency to retell the novel plots, Miss Lanštiak sticks strictly to her selected theme and carefully focussed her analysis.

The wide variety of aspects involved in the complex processes of an orphan adjusting to a new family or new circumstance which Miss Lanštiak devoted her analysis to include salient figures of religion, economics, appearances, speech, education, race (one woman from India and one woman from the First Nations), as well as attitudes toward people of the opposite sex, besides basically the complex processes involved in building a sense of self-identity. In my view this effort is comprehensive.

Her introduction, conclusion and bibliography, following format requirements, are complete and thorough. There are some errors in English but the presentation is clear and logical. The carefully treatment of orphans is covered thematically (rather than a chapter dedicated to each novel), yet the fine organization and thoughtful analysis are all most impressive indeed. All in all, this is a wonderful and interesting thesis written with a quite good level of English, and so there is little to criticize.

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

Navrhovaná známka: výborně*

Otázky k obhajobě:

1. What aspects of an orphan's life revealed in these novels do you think is mostly a problem of the past in Canada, if any?
2. If one were to speak strictly about the Western definition of an orphan as one not raised or growing up until 18 with his or her biological parents, are there any characters you analyzed who would not really fit this definition within their native cultures?
3. Only one orphan undergoes formal psychoanalysis as a way of confronting issues. Why do you think most of the orphans do not receive such psychological treatment?

Podpis vedoucího diplomové práce/oponenta diplomové práce*: 

Datum:

19-5-17

*nehodící se škrtněte