

Jihočeská univerzita v Českých Budějovicích University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice

POSUDEK VEDOUCÍHO DIPLOMOVÉ PRÁCE

Studijní obor: Anglická a americká literatura

Název práce: Ernest Hemingway's Fiesta, Francis Scott Fitzgerald's The Great Gatsby

and the Development of Femininity and Masculinity in the 1920s

Autorka práce: Bc. Anna Krejzlová

Vedoucí diplomové práce: Einat Adar, M.A., Ph.D

Oponent diplomové práce: doc. PhDr. Ladislav Nagy, Ph.D.

Stručná charakteristika práce / Short characteristics of the thesis

This thesis analyses images of masculinity and femininity in two of the most famous 'lost generation' novels: *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald and *Fiesta* by Ernst Hemingway. It situates questions of feminine and masculine gender roles within the historical circumstances of the post-World War I period, as a framework for analysing the portrayal of female and male characters respectively. Overall, it highlights the contemporary crisis of both femininity and masculinity as a major concern in the novels and suggests productive ways of reading these characters.

Celkové zhodnocení / Overall assessment

I would like to start by commending Anna for her ability to do independent research and true interest in understanding gender roles and stereotypes in modernist literature. The two novels were well-chosen for showing similarities but also differences within the same period. Once we have set up the basic direction for the project, she was able to develop both its historical background and literary readings on her own, using ample research materials to expand on the various aspects of the topic. As work was progressing, she successfully defended her views on the novels and characters and added more complexity and nuance. The finished work has a clear structure and shows a good command of English and academic writing style. I also have to say that I appreciated Anna's creativity in the inner titles and the presentation of the arguments.

My main suggestion for improvement or more accurately further development, would be to think more broadly about what the specific portrayals of gender traits in the two novels would mean for how each author viewed gender roles, and how femininity and masculinity reflect on each other. One of the interesting questions raised by this work is whether the failure of both Brett in *Fiesta* and Jordan in *The Great Gatsby* to become truly independent is the result of the male perspective of the authors, or does it reflect the historical reality of the time. Finally, I would like to mention that working with Anna and seeing her project develop has been a pleasure and I can happily recommend the thesis for defence and suggest the mark **excellent**.

Práci doporučuji k obhajol	oě.		
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