



POSUDEK VEDOUcíHO BAKALÁŘSKÉ PRÁCE

Studijní obor: **Anglický jazyk a literatura (dvouoborové studium)**

Název práce: **Horror Atmosphere in E. A. Poe's Stories**

Autor/-ka práce: **Tereza Kašparová**

Vedoucí bakalářské práce: **PhDr. Mariana Machová, Ph.D.**

Oponent/-ka bakalářské práce: **Richard Stock, Ph.D.**

Stručná charakteristika práce

The thesis examines the means and strategies used in Poe's stories to create the atmosphere of horror, focusing on his main themes, setting and narrative style. The author asks a basic and seemingly simple question: What makes Poe's stories scary?, which makes her take a close look at some of Poe's most famous texts (e.g. "The Tell-Tale Heart", "The Fall of the House of Usher") and analyze them from the point of view of his creative methods.

Celkové zhodnocení

Tereza Kašparová's thesis is well written, clearly structured and focused. With the support of secondary sources, she correctly stresses Poe's very conscious effort to create a particular "effect" in his texts – fear in the case of the stories she chose for discussion – and his careful choice of the means which help him to achieve that effect (the connection of this important aspect of Poe's method to his "Philosophy of Composition" mentioned in the conclusion could have perhaps been made more prominent from the start of the thesis). She focuses on three types of such means: his use of "scary" themes (namely that of death, madness, violence, and the supernatural), his use of evocative settings, and his narrative strategies. Tereza explains the use of each of these means and illustrates them with examples of particular stories, one of which is always subject of a more detailed analysis. The examples are well chosen and the stories carefully read, with close attention to detail. Tereza's use of secondary sources is very efficient, too (and it should be stressed that she found and acquired the works herself, the supervisor input was minimal here). The thesis has been carefully consulted in the process of writing, and Tereza responded to the supervisor's comments and suggestions in an intelligent and creative manner.

The thesis does raise certain questions (e.g. to what extent are the three types of means discussed intrinsically interconnected?) and some points could have been developed further or studied in more depth. However, all that would go well beyond the standard requirements for a BA level thesis. As it is, the thesis clearly fulfills the requirements and I do recommend it for defense.

Práci doporučuji k obhajobě.

Navrhovaná klasifikace: **v ý b o r n ě**

11. 6. 2014

Datum

Podpis