

POSUDEK BAKALÁŘSKÉ PRÁCE

Jméno a příjmení studenta: Marek Schwarz
Název bakalářské práce: The Role of the Press in the Case of Jack the Ripper and Its Representation in M. Belloc Lowndes' *The Lodger*
Vedoucí bakalářské práce: Mgr. Renata Janktová, MA, PhD.

I. Cíl práce a jeho naplnění:

1. Cíl práce byl stanoven a naplněn v souladu s tématem
- ~~2. Cíl práce byl naplněn s drobnými nedostatky~~
- ~~3. Cíl práce byl adekvátní, ale jen částečně naplněný~~
- ~~4. Stanovený cíl nebyl naplněn~~

II. Struktura práce:

1. Logická, jasná a přehledná
- ~~2. Přiměřená~~
- ~~3. Uspokojivá~~
- ~~4. Nevhodná~~

III. Práce s literaturou:

1. Výborná: zvoleny a použity vhodné prameny v patřičném rozsahu
- ~~2. Velmi dobrá práce s adekvátními prameny v patřičném rozsahu~~
- ~~3. Průměrná práce s literaturou~~
- ~~4. Slabá, chybná nebo nedostačující~~

IV. Formální stránka:

1. Odpovídá všem stanoveným požadavkům
- ~~2. Obsahuje drobné formální chyby~~
- ~~3. Nesplňuje některé zásadní požadavky~~
- ~~4. Nesplňuje většinu stanovených požadavků~~

VI. Jazyková úroveň práce:

1. Výborná
- ~~2. Velmi dobrá~~
- ~~3. Dobrá~~
- ~~4. Podprůměrná~~

VII. Náročnost zpracování tématu:

- ~~1. Velmi vysoká~~
- ~~2. Vysoká~~
- ~~3. Střední~~
- ~~4. Nízká~~

Vyjádření vedoucí bakalářské práce:

The bachelor thesis focuses on the part played by the press in the investigations and public perceptions of the murders attributed to the perpetrator known as Jack the Ripper, and the ways in which this aspect of the events is represented in M. Belloc Lowndes' novel *The Lodger*. The theoretical part introduces the crime and policing situation in London in the historical context of Victorian England. It provides essential information about the detective units and their way of work. The next part deals with Victorian press, particularly crime journalism. It is interesting to see the significant degree of influence of political affiliations on this sensationism-driven area of reporting, and the suggested "symbiosis" of the press and police investigators. The "Case of Jack the Ripper" section gives detailed information on the murders, victims, and chief suspects. Mr Schwarz includes the letters supposedly authored by the murderer, which are generally little known. The theoretical section closes with a subchapter on the press and their reporting of the murders. Here, some examples from contemporary newspapers would be useful. The introduction of the author and the analysed novel draws attention, among others, to the female narrative perspective, which reveals contemporary gender stereotyping and marginalisation of women (Warkentin). Mr Schwarz' thorough reading of the novel highlights numerous analogies to the Ripper case, including Lowndes' references to riots preceding the murders, or the resignation of the Police Commissioner. His analysis demonstrates the central role of the press in the public perception of the case in *The Lodger* and compares it with the historical realities of the murders. Of utmost significance were the deliveries of narratives that compensated for the lack of evidence and information, and satiated the public thirst for stories and sensations. How easy it was to succumb to such excitement is shown on the example of the main protagonist, the otherwise rational and practical Mrs Bunting. Mr Schwarz' comments on her experiences of emotional upheaval and moral conundrum show an excellent understanding of the character's psychology. In general, his analysis demonstrates very good close reading and interpretation skills.

On the whole, the thesis is a very well-researched, perceptive and comprehensive piece of work, presented in excellent English, with only occasional inaccuracies and slips into colloquial language. It manifests excellent work with secondary sources and referencing skills. I would recommend greater embedding of quotations in the text as some of them are placed in the paragraphs with no linking, which makes them feel somewhat detached, especially at the beginning of a paragraph (e.g. pp.44, 46, 47). Finally, I must commend Mr Schwarz for his highly independent and competent work, which required only minimum supervisory guidance.

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

Navrhovaná známka: výborně

Otázky k obhajobě:

1. What part does the juxtaposition of Joe Chandler and the press play as a narrative tool in the novel? What does it suggest about the interaction between police and journalists, and about their perception by London communities?

2. How do you interpret the absence of murder detail in the novel? How does this authorial choice affect the narrative and the way of reading and interpreting the story?

Podpis vedoucího bakalářské práce:.....



Datum: 14. 5. 2022

*nehodící se škrtněte