

POSUDEK BAKALÁŘSKÉ PRÁCE

Jméno a příjmení studenta: Kateřina Jáchymová

Název bakalářské práce: (Mock-)Gothic Characters in Oscar Wilde's The Canterville Ghost

Vedoucí bakalářské práce: Mgr. Renata Janktová, MA, PhD.

Oponentka bakalářské práce: PhDr. Alice Sukdolová, 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, chybá 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 vedoucího bakalářské práce:

Kateřina Jáchymová's bachelor thesis focuses on Oscar Wilde's story 'The Canterville Ghost' with the aim of assessing the degree and nature of the Gothic in Wilde's characters. The opening part of the thesis introduces the genre, its history, main features and seminal works. It mentions, among others, the categories of terror and horror as conceived by Ann Radcliffe and the distinction between male and female Gothic as described by Miles (2015). Separate

subchapters deal with the Gothic genre revival in the late 19th century, the time of Oscar Wilde, and American Gothic, the development of which was shaped by different historical and social circumstances compared to Britain. Moving closer to her topic, Ms Jáchymová mentions Gothic parody as a greatly popular subgenre throughout the 19th century. The structuring of this part of the thesis is very good as it proceeds logically and provides a good theoretical background for the interpretation of the primary text. Ms Jáchymová introduces Oscar Wilde with particular attention to his aesthetics and the Gothic elements in his works, especially in *The Picture of Dorian Gray*. When discussing the typical features of Gothic characters, Ms Jáchymová looks back at the classical Gothic works and makes a basic distinction of the archetypal male (strong, dominant, noble, but also passionate and violent, and female (unspoilt, innocent, sensitive, submissive but also intelligent and brave) Gothic figures. I particularly like her commentary on children's characters and their imaginative sensibility and habits that give them different access to the supernatural and fantastic compared with adults. It was also a good idea to include a few notes on the British perceptions of America in Wilde's time, and Wilde's own experience, which indicates that his mockery of American materialism and way of life in 'The Canterville Ghost' mirrors, at least partly, his personal views. The plot of the story is delivered in abundant, if not excessive, detail as numerous incidents described there appear again in the analysis. On the other hand, it shows Ms Jáchymová's close engagement with the text and attention to detail. They enable her to identify and analyse the relevant Gothic and mock-Gothic aspects of the story and elements of parody. She finds, among others, that it is the human, emotional, side of Sir Simon, which makes him deviate from the traditional image of the evil Gothic ghost. Analogy is drawn to the fate of Frankenstein's monster, provoking questions about guilt, judgement, and forgiveness. Ms Jáchymová's study of the early Gothic texts, *The Castle of Otranto* and *The Mysteries of Udolpho*, but also *Frankenstein* and *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, as points of departure for her comparative analysis really pays back in her work and I cannot but commend her proactive approach to the subject. Her analysis is supported by adequate quotations from the primary text and examples from other works of the genre. The thesis is well-structured and written in very good English. There are occasional language mistakes (missing or misplaced articles, punctuation in relative clauses). Adequate secondary sources are used and cited appropriately.

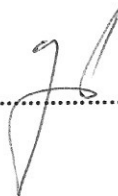
Práce splňuje základní požadavky kladené na tento typ prací, a proto ji doporučuji k ústní obhajobě.

Navrhovaná známka: výborně

Otázky k obhajobě:

1. In respect to your comments on children's imaginative faculties, how would you interpret the difference in behaviour, especially towards Sir Simon, between the Otis twins and their sister Virginia?
2. Considering the mockery of American lifestyle and way of thinking, can we also find parody of any things British/English in 'The Canterville Ghost'?
3. Are there any Gothic elements or features in *The Picture of Dorian Gray* that are parodied in 'The Canterville Ghost'?

Podpis vedoucí bakalářské práce:.....



Datum: 16.8. 2023