



POSUDEK OPONENTA BAKALÁŘSKÉ PRÁCE

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

Název práce: **A Phenomenon of Sherlock Holmes: A Detailed Comparison of Selected Sherlock Holmes Stories by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and the Sherlock Series by BBC**

Autorka práce: **Kristina Kubecová**

Vedoucí bakalářské práce: **Einat Adar, M.A. Ph.D.**

Oponent bakalářské práce: **Mgr. Tomáš Jajtner, Ph.D. et Th.D.**

Short characteristics of the thesis

Kristina Kubecová's BA thesis compares the "original" versions of Sherlock Holmes stories and the BBC adaptation (aired between 2010-2017). The first three chapters deal with the typical features of the detective fiction (Chapter 2), the life and work of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (Chapter 3) and the challenges of adapting novels, or more generally, literary works for TV (Chapter 4). Chapter 5 focuses more specifically on the BBC adaptation, the issues related to the language in the Holmes series and the main and additional characters. The main body of the thesis (Chapters 6-8) analyses half a dozen Conan's works and their TV adaptations. The main points of the analysis are summed up in a short conclusion (Chapter 9).

Overall assessment

The thesis has a clear structure, the chapters are linked by cross references, and – last but not least - written in pleasing, virtually faultless English.

Nevertheless, the main problem of the BA lies elsewhere. Even if we set aside the issue of assessing products of popular culture and the complex questions related to it, the real issue at stake is the actual added value of such a "detailed" comparison of a classic work of popular culture and its TV adaptation. Kristina must have spent a fair amount of time studying and identifying the differences between the literary original and its BBC version. However, the outcome rarely reaches beyond a mere description. The thesis badly lacks a real focus: what is the point of adapting a classic Victorian work today? Is it just the logic of a potential commercial success, i.e., the machinery of the business industry? What are the specific challenges and the shifts in aesthetic or ideological issues related to the world of Sherlock Holmes? Does the author focus on anything more than just the "comparison" of the story lines or the technological gadgets used in the BBC series, such as the mobile phones?

The life of a literary work is an important testimony of its vitality and versatility. However, the role of a critic and analyst is to ask why some works survive and in what way (such as the adaptations) and why are some doomed to fail.

With all its meticulous details and comparisons, the thesis leaves more questions than answers. I hope the author will clarify some of these issues at the defence.



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Nevertheless, I **do** recommend the thesis for defence, and suggest the following grade:
very good (*velmi dobře*).

24 May 2022

Datum

Podpis