

POSUDEK BAKALÁŘSKÉ PRÁCE

Jméno a příjmení studenta: Lucie Petrásková

Název bakalářské práce: The Marsh Girl Myth, A Human Individual as a Part of the Natural World in the work of Delia Owens / Dívka z močálu, mýtus o dospívání v románu Delii Owens

Oponent 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 oponentky bakalářské práce:

The thesis examines Delia Owen's novel *Where the Crawdads Sing* with a focus on the central coming-of-age in wilderness theme. The novel is set in the literary context of Southern Literature, which is introduced, including its major features and authors, in the theoretical section. It further introduces the coming-of-age subgenre and finally, the writer and her work themselves. The concept of wilderness is presented from both environmental

and socio-cultural perspectives. While the results of a survey of contemporary Americans' perception of nature and the natural environment bring in an interesting sociological glimpse, a brief discussion of ruralism and the main stereotypes linked to (Southern) rural life and their representations in literature would be useful as some of them play out in the novel. It would be also convenient to provide basic characteristics of the North Carolina marsh landscape portrayed in the novel in the theoretical section to have a factual framework for an analysis of Owens' depiction of the setting. In the thesis, the location and its natural conditions are presented in the analytical part only as described in the novel, missing the critical distance needed to examine the author's portrayal of the place. Several descriptive passages from the texts are provided as examples but no comments are made on the language and style used. When explaining the difference between marsh and swamp based on the novel's interpretation, Ms Petrásková adequately points out that swamp is the place of Chase Andrews' death, which also carries a symbolic meaning. In the analytical part, the main themes are explained, including those of prime relevance to the coming-of-age narrative, particularly the human-nature relationship, social isolation, and independence. Ms Petrásková shows a good understanding of the characters and the delicate relationships between them and uses well-chosen quotes from the novel for illustration. Particularly the quotes on p. 23 demonstrate well Kya's way of interpreting human behaviour and societal norms through her knowledge of the natural world. With nature replacing both family and society, her life in the wilderness shapes her mental and emotional development as well as her understanding of the human world. Symptomatically, all the key symbols in the story outlined in the penultimate chapter come from nature. The Conclusion brings at last the valuable critical evaluation of the novel as "enrich[ing] with pleasant reading experience" as well as bringing "fascinating information about the marsh" (p.36), implicitly elevating the readerly quality of the text and the author's mastering of her subject. It is a pity that this critical grasp does not occur earlier in the thesis.

The paper is written in good English with some accuracy issues (e.g. articles) and punctuation errors (especially in relative clauses). There are some flaws in referencing, especially poor paraphrasing using other authors' language without appropriate marking (e.g. "contingent upon particular identifiers" p. 6, or "flair for the absurd" p. 9, etc.). It is important for the author of the thesis to avoid such practice in any future academic work. Finally, page numbers would be suitable for verbatim quotes from the novel.

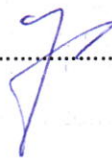
Práce splňuje základní požadavky kladené na tento typ prací, a proto ji doporučuji k ústní obhajobě.

Navrhovaná známka: velmi dobře

Otázky k obhajobě:

1. What kind of language does Owens use to describe the marshland setting? Can the depicted qualities of the place be related to the main protagonist's way of feeling and thinking?
2. Can you think of any other literary work that depicts characters growing up in the wild? If so, how do they compare to Delia Owens' story?

Podpis oponentky bakalářské práce:.....



Datum: 6. 8. 2022