Abstract (in English)

The thesis aimed to explore the topos of inn in relation to the topos of journey in fantasy literature. The first step was to define the term fantasy literature with regard to the set of texts selected for the analysis; namely their connection to mythology and fairy tales, genres working with hero’s initiation journey. Integral part of the thesis was to consider theoretical works focused on the image of pubs in literature, as well as a short description of the form and function of this topos in other genres. The subject of the analysis were inns from six fictional worlds representing a cross-section of the genre from the half of the 20th century until present time, while the selected examples fall mostly into the sub-genre of epic fantasy. The analysis showed that the inns have four primary functions: hero’s intimate space, place of meeting and cognition, place of transformation and place of stories. Each of these functions is connected to a specific part of the initiation journey and represents its beginning, or one of its tests. All these functions are also connected to certain issues related to hero’s psychological journey, namely the issue of trust, identity and will. The inns which serve as hero’s intimate space have a special position; they reflect his or her state of mind and represent sacral area isolated from the outside world. In relation to the inns we also speak about neutrality and balance connected to the inn’s society and events occurring in those surroundings. Any corruption of one or the other costs the inn its position and may even result in its destruction. The level of detail in the inn’s description depends on its function and position within the initiation journey. The lack of characteristics usually turns our attention to the course of events inside the inn; pleasant and inviting inns serve as the place of meeting while the dilapidated ones often signal incoming test. The conclusion of the thesis summarizes the findings, possibly instigating further research.