

This master's thesis deals with the analyse the poem in prose "Walled-in" by Brazilian black symbolist poet João da Cruz e Sousa. At the beginning it outlines the author's life and work. An insight into the starting points of Symbolism follows, accompanied by a detailed characterization of the essential features of its poetics as represented in the works by Cruz e Sousa. The analysis itself begins with the definition of the poem genre in prose and a brief outline of the content of the "Walled-in", which is a synthesis of the poet's artistic and life options resulting from being a black man. On this basis, I have determined the fundamental themes (Night, Art, Pain and Blackness), in which the poet's exclusion as an artist and as a negro. The initial intimate confession turns into a fiery speech that fights back narrow-minded artistic production of the period and the Negro discrimination.

