ABSTRACT

This thesis focuses on the variations within the genre of young adult fiction in the period between the two world wars. It explores the forms of this genre depending on the intention of the work and the relationship between the text and its model reader. The thesis is divided into two main chapters; the first is theoretical and is divided into two parts. The second chapter focuses on comparative analysis.

The first literary-historical part deals with the life and literary life of a woman, starting at the second half of the nineteenth century and presents the genre of the romance novel with its sub-genres; the starting point is the work of Lenderová and Mocná. The second theoretical part contains the typology of popular and artistic literature and the categories included therein, especially the categories of author, narrator, reader and model reader. This part is based mainly on Eco's concept of literary work. The second chapter interprets and compares always two stories by Czech authors of the interwar and early wartime. Selected texts of the authors belonging to the canon of artistic literature (Benešová, Pujmanová, Majerová) is compared with the texts of the authors of popular literature (Hüttlová, Neubauer, Žďárská-Strejčková).

The thesis presents connections between these texts of dual literature, focuses on the positions by which works of artistic literature exceed those of popular literature and point to their mutual influence.

KEYWORDS

Young adult fiction, romance novel, model reader, popular literature, artistic literature