Abstract

This thesis focuses on the notion of unreliability of a narrator. From the theoretical point of view, it challenges the category of unreliable narratorsas too broad and vague. It attempts to problematize the idea of a distinctive border line separating reliable and unreliable narrators via practical interpretative analysis of prototypes of narrators. Based on such analyses it claims that many of these narrators have been included in this category unjustifiably. Thus the category suffers from its expansive character and blurred meaning. The thesis perceives recognition of narrators based on binary opposition of reliable vs. unreliableas problematic; therefore the thesis also provides potential ways how to approach individual samples of narratives and their narrators. The thesis attempts to reduce growing the number of potential unreliable narrators via using other frames to describe their narrative functions.