

## **Abstract**

The aim of this diploma thesis is to trace the utopia and disenchantment of four selected Italian writers who spent some time in Czechoslovakia and testified about their experiences. We try to achieve that by using a conception presented by Claudio Magris in his essay *Utopia e disincanto*. Firstly, the substance of the terminological pair utopia and disenchantment is explicated. The analysis is based on following works: *Il pane rosso* by Giovanni Passeri, *Praga: appunti dalla memoria* by Orazio Pizzigoni, *I fatti di Praga* (as well as *L`Ora di Praga*) and *Praga magica* by Angelo M. Ripellino and *Il tempo fra cane e lupo* by Vittorio Sermoni. Passeri and Pizzigoni arrived in Czechoslovakia at the turn of the 1950s and 1960s to ascertain how real socialism functioned. Ripellino and Sermoni arrived at the time of the Prague Spring, therefore their writings relate to this period. The thesis is divided into two parts according to historical stages and different motivations of the authors. There are four subheadings, one for each writer, containing analysis of the selected writings, biography of the author and characterization of their dreams, expectations and subsequent disenchantment. These findings are summarized through a brief recapitulation in the last chapter.