

Abstract

This bachelor thesis focuses on the novel *The Seventh Day* (2013) written by contemporary Chinese author Yu Hua (* 1960). The novel imaginatively reflects the situation in contemporary Chinese society and draws attention to many problems of today's China. In the novel Yu Hua uses an innovative way of narration: the narrator and the main protagonist of the story is Yang Fei, who after his death travels around the Land of the Unburied for seven days. Although the author uses some experimental techniques to depict reality, the novel also shows several similarities with traditional Chinese novels of the late Qing dynasty. The novel is thoroughly analysed and introduced in literary historical context. Focus of the analysis is on rendering reality of this novel and on other meaning-making elements, which decisively determine the nature of the literary image of contemporary China, such as the religious motifs of the work, the use of supernatural elements or the motifs of grotesque and farce.