

## **Abstract**

In my diploma thesis I deal with gender and archetypal analysis of the novella *Penelopiad* by Canadian author Margaret Atwood. Firstly, I will introduce the chosen methodology and outline the theoretical anchoring. In the theoretical part, I am going to focus on women's writing and reading, as well as resistant reading and feminist critique of archetypes.

In the analytical part I deal with application of these theories on individual characters of the *Penelopiad*. I follow individual female characters and I pay attention to male characters only marginally and especially in relation to women. I focus on the relationships and ties that Atwood works with and on the men's influence on women and women among themselves. I watch the stratification of power and how it is affected, for example, by the beauty myth or the struggle for dominant masculinity.

**Keywords:** The Penelopiad, archetypes, archetypal analysis, power, resistant reader, trickster, victimization