

The work focuses on various kinds of the grotesque in short prosaic forms in the Czech literature of 1920's. In the first and second chapter the work provides theoretical and methodological background. Fundamental theoretical questions of the grotesque are opened and two principal approaches to the question (W. Kayser's and M. M. Bachtin's) are interpreted. In the following chapter grotesque literary works of five authors are analysed. The author of the study primarily aims for recognizing various forms of the grotesque in the given period and for revealing universal mechanisms of the grotesque in this way. The knowledge acquired is put in a literary-historical and social context. Two principal kinds of the grotesque are defined in the last chapter – the grotesque as a state of mind and the grotesque used as an artistic device of satire. These types are related to current tendencies of Poetism and Expressionism.