

## **Abstract**

The aim of the thesis is to demonstrate the importance of the category of choice in the literary process which has not been described systematically yet. The thesis explores the occurrence of the category of choice in all aspects of textual genesis, focusing on the author as the producer of the choice and investigating to what extent his choice influences the final form of the literary work. From the point of view of the principle of selection, the thesis deals with the choice in the actual world and its subsequent verbal representation implemented by the choice of specific literary processes and language means. The category is discussed in the broader context of its interdisciplinarity, with emphasis on both the conscious and unconscious nature of the category and the supra-individual determinants. In the conclusion, the thesis examines the author from the other side – as a product of the choice – and raises questions concerning the selection criteria for the constitution of the literary canon.