

Abstract

The goal of this thesis is to analyze five selected novels of the Norwegian modern literature in terms of the theory of tragedy. The thesis focuses on four basic aspects of the topic. First, we are trying to capture and describe the concept of tragic in general. This is done with help of theories of the tragic that: 1) are generally considered significant in the area of tragedy 2) are interesting in connection with the interpretation of the novels chosen for this thesis.

Secondly, we are trying to describe main topics that could help us to identify and investigate the tragic in the above mentioned works. After this, the thesis brings a closer analysis of the novels with regard to the previously described theories. It also focuses in this connection on some additional characteristics of tragedy, as well as more theories connected to the tragic area. Furthermore, these analyses lead to repeated encounters of various interpretations of classical and modern features of tragedy. The conclusion of the thesis points out the most significant features of the analyzed works that form, according to my opinion, the tragic basis in the novels (in this context, the thesis compares the five chosen novels with each other, thus showing that one of them differs from the rest). As a result, I come to the conclusion that the classical and modern tragedies actually have much in common. The novels that are analyzed in the thesis appear to be a suitable research material, since they both contain features of the classical tragedy and use these features in connection with the modern world and in a modern manner. Thus they manage to preserve tragedy and make it current at the same time.