

Abstract:

In the Bachelor's thesis *Body and Sexuality in the Novel San Camilo 1936*, we are going to pursue some of the principal themes of this work; these are based on depictions of the human body in its physical form, i.e. disease, injury, death, external appearance of the characters, and various aspects of sexuality.

In order to get to analyze the respective themes, it is necessary to get to know the author first. It's Camilo José Cela, often noted as one of the greatest novelists of the 20th century, a winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1989 and various other awards. Beside novels, Cela also wrote poetry, travelogs, plays, essays, short stories and newspaper articles. He is famous for his novel *La Familia de Pascual Duarte* (The Family of Pascual Duarte), introducing the new literary trend tremendism to the world of literature. The term tremendism is derived from the Spanish word 'tremendo', which can be translated as terrible, horrifying, raising fear etc. This by itself gives us an idea about this style's characteristics, which we are going to present in the following text.

We consider it essential to give some insight into the period of history the novel was written and set in. It takes place at the very beginning of the Spanish Civil War, specifically the week around the 18th July 1936, which was the day the uprising in Madrid started. The end of the 1960s, when the novel was first published, was a similarly difficult era of the Francisco Franco's dictatorship. In both these periods it was rather problematical and scandalous to depict sexuality and various aspects of carnality.

The crucial part of the thesis lies in the analysis of these very themes of sexuality and carnality within tremendism and in the context of its time.