

MICHAELA PIŇOSOVÁ'S B.A. THESIS – REVIEW WRITTEN BY THE OPPONENT

African-American Mothers in Harrier Beecher Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin* and Toni Morrison's *Beloved* is a very well-researched thesis, relying on a rather extensive and truly contemporary bibliography. The only relevant item that seems to be missing, once I came across the notion of milk on p. 25, is Cizoux's studies – would they enrich Ms. Piňosová's insight, or is her focus rather elsewhere?

For her analysis, the author has chosen two highly important novels from two different historical periods, and thus clearly intended to draw some contrasts first. This, unfortunately, leads to a conclusion that seems to be quite obvious – would it be possible to be more refined here?

Having said that, the analysis itself is firmly grounded in relevant theory, and one may say solid and persuasive, even though Morrison's *Beloved* is, from time to time and for the purposes of comparison, a little simplified. Admittedly, even great scholars do that, and therefore, this comment is actually not a critical remark, just an observation. As to the interpretations, my only reservation is thus Ms. Piňosová's use and understanding of the terms „objective“ and „subjective“ (see e. g. p. 3, p. 35, p. 42): be it in connection with gender, race or narrative, could she please explain her philosophical position here?

The language of the thesis is adequate and almost flawless, with just a few minor mistakes as to articles; any native speaker could have seen to that. I would wish to improve Ms. Piňosová's logic, though: e. g. on p. 7, instead of „however“, she should have used „therefore“ or „thus“, and I would like to assure her that this is not an isolated case; in other words, she should get rid of redundant and/or confusing „howevers“. And Ms. Piňosová could have paid more attention to her Czech abstract as well: „Milovaná od Toni Morrison“ or „ženy...jejich dětí“ simply does not read well.

In my opinion, Ms. Piňosová deserves the grade „výborně“/“excellent“ or „velmi dobře“/“very good“. This being the case, the final result depends on the review written by the supervisor and on Ms. Piňosová's performance during the oral defense.

Prague, Aug. 31, 2014

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