Abstract in English

This thesis focuses on the construct of gender in the modernist novel *Eva* by the Dutch authoress Carry van Bruggen in relation to the individual human subject. The goal of this thesis is to analyse how is gender constructed in the book and how this construct influences the psychic development and decision making of the main character, a woman named Eva. The answer to the main research question *What role does the construct of gender play in the life of the main character of the novel Eva?* was reached with the help of the discourse analysis, namely the post-structuralist discourse analysis using the deconstructive reading. The thesis is at the same time theoretically anchored in the post-structuralist feminist literary criticism. The theoretical part therefore draws on the ideas of Jacques Derrida, Michel Foucault, Judith Baxter and Judith Butler. As an inspiration for the discourse analysis itself served the discourse analysis dealing with the gender identity that was carried out by Kateřina Zábrodská in 2009.

The first step in the analysis stage was to identify the relevant passages of the novel that inform what does it mean to be a man or a woman. The comments on these passages focus on the individual claims about gender, they formulate what kind of duties and limits these discourses put on the human subject, and they also present with what consequences would face those who don’t want to or are not able to obey these discourses. However, the major objective of this thesis was to find out how does the main character herself deal with the individual gender discourses, and how her approach to these discourses changes over time.