

The purpose of this bachelor thesis is to answer the question whether the modern Japanese horror is a continuation of the tradition of scary stories called kaidan, or it is a genre adopted from the West. In the theoretical part the definition of horror and characteristics of Japanese horror genre are discussed. Further, it is focused on the definition of kaidan and its fear-inducing elements. The elements and themes common for both kaidan and modern Japanese horror are summarized in the conclusion of the theoretical part. In the practical part actual kaidan and modern Japanese horror stories are used to prove whether the themes being discovered in kaidan stories can be found in contemporary horror literature. At the same time, the shift of modern Japanese horror from kaidan is analyzed. The question put at the beginning is answered in the conclusion of the thesis.

Keywords: