

ABSTRACT

The central topic of the thesis is a (seemingly) paradoxical proposition of current feminist thinking that a woman in language and in our culture is absent. It is an all theoretical work that focuses on interpretation of key concepts of gender analysis related to the major concept of absence of a woman in language. It is trying to explain these concepts as deeply as possible and point at their interconnections and eventually their different conceptions, whereas the analysis proceeds primarily on the grounds of literary criticism. The work is structured into two thematically interconnected units. The first focuses on analysing key terms of contemporary poststructuralist philosophy and critical theory, particularly language, text, writing, discourse, power, gender identity and falogocentrism, with the aim to map the theoretical foundations of the concept of absence of a woman in language. The second unit concentrates on analysing the subversive potential of individual conceptions of women's writing, mainly of the theory of *l'écriture féminine* of Hélène Cixous, Luce Irigaray, Julia Kristeva and the concept of „women's writing“ of Jan Matonoha, which all equally aspire to destabilize and problematize the functioning and the logic of the dominant discourse discussed in the first unit and thus create a place in language, from which a woman could speak for herself, eventually reinterpret the way she is defined as an absence.

Key words: discourse, gender, text, indentity, falogocentrism, women's writing