

The objective of this thesis is to analyse female characters in selected Spanish novels of the Franco era. Woman, as an object of literary dissection, offers a number of possible interpretations, be it from the literary, historical, psychological or sociological point of view. This thesis intends to take into account all these aspects. In the first part of the thesis we consider the evolution of a woman's condition within society, particularly in the Franco era. In the second part, we concentrate upon woman as a literary character. After a brief historical summary of female characters within Spanish literature, we focus on analysing particular works of influential Spanish writers. In the final chapter we strive for a comprehensive view of female characters in the novels discussed.