

Abstract

This diploma thesis *Composition and Mystification (Jan Novák, Jan Lukeš, and T. R. Field)* acquaints the reader with three personages of Czech literature of the twentieth century. So far they have been treated by literary science as rather marginal. Their work is associated with a great deal of literary mystification originating from the authors themselves or people influenced by their literary output and their personalities. All three authors belong to the category of so called 'loonies', which implies that their lives and their work were to certain extent shaped by the eccentricity of their personalities or perhaps even mental disorders.

The introductory chapter with its synoptic character defines and describes the term of literary mystification which is further on related to terms such as play, ludism and myth. Particular emphasis is being put on the distinction between the literary mystifications and the traditional ones. Selected literary mystifications in Czech literature are exemplified. Attention is also drawn to the publications of Vladimír Borecký who was interested in the category of so called 'loonies' and 'weirdoes'.

The following chapter is concerned with individual authors maintaining an identical procedure of their depiction. After the sources of information are mentioned, the following chapter recounts the stories of their lives. The chapter of major importance follows. It deals with mystifications within the works of the authors or some other related ones. The final part of each treatise is supposed to cover and provide characteristics of their literary works. Considerable emphasis is put on poetry as a substantial part of the literary output of all three authors.

The concluding chapter provides an overall summary of individual treatises and phenomena which make them either similar or distinct.

The aim of this thesis is to clarify and defend the use of literary mystifications in literature as a source of inspiration and creative playfulness and thus to defend the value of the literary work of the authors.