

Filip Čížek's B. A. thesis – review of the supervisor

In his B. A. thesis, Mr. Čížek decided to explore the idea of struggles in Ken Kesey's novels *One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest* and *Sometimes a Great Notion*. He was able to justify the choice as well as to develop the main argument. He divided his precise and sensitive analysis into three chapters and also detailed subchapters – thus, he never lost his focus and came up with quite a few new, interesting connections.

However, I believe that (even though he is submitting just a B. A. thesis) he could have defined his characters more clearly: does he see them as primarily Promethean, countercultural, or western heroes? This would have helped him as to describing the actual aim of his work, too, which is – in my opinion – just hinted at in the conclusion. As it stands, I do not see those few paragraphs all that persuasive: when Mr. Čížek claims (on p. 36) that „ideas are developed further“ (sic), I would want to specify that (which ideas, how further), and when he classifies *Sometimes a Great Notion* as more „philosophical“, I consider that too vague (is there no life, death, or time in *One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest* – in addition to madness?).

Formally, it is important to point out that the Czech summary should be at the end of the thesis, and should be listed in the table of contents as well (together with the bibliography). Moreover, I encountered two terms in the Czech text I am not so sure about: is there any difference in between the words „psychické“ and „psychologické“, as they are being used here, and if so, how does one define that? And last but not least, I find the summary unfinished – similarly to the conclusion, and even more so.

Depending on the opponent's review and Mr. Čížek's performance during the oral defense, I suggest the following grade: velmi dobře.

Prague, August 13, 2010

Dr. Hana Ulmanová

