

The aim of the thesis is to analyse selected trickster tales of Native Americans of North America with focus on the tales of the tribes of Plains and Prairies. The method took inspiration from Lévi-Strauss's structural analysis. We use Lévi-Strauss's terms such as mytheme, group of myths or formal structure of a myth to analyse and find a hidden meaning in a selected group of trickster tales. We call the 'hidden meaning' the semantic meaning of a mytheme. We focused on the following mythemes: direction down and up, change and getting new physical abilities, one's ambition or wish, a prime number, duality of a mytheme. The mythemes listed above were analysed in terms of their formal structure. Then we suggested the semantic meaning of the mythemes.