

Abstract

This thesis studies forgery which appears in selected novels by Umberto Eco. They are *Foucault's Pendulum*, *Baudolino* and *The Prague Cemetery*. At the beginning theoretical basis of Eco's thoughts about the structure and character of forgery is described. Later different types of forgery are identified in the selected novels.

The part about *Foucault's Pendulum* describes not only the forgery itself, The Plan, but also the theoretically-historical basis of the novel as well as conspiracy theories and the political and social situation in Italy in those days. The part about *Baudolino* describes the historical forgery - The Realm of Prester John and The Grail Legend, which we can find in fiction books these days. The last studied novel, Eco's latest, *The Prague Cemetery* involves antisemitism and concerns the creation of an irrational xenophobic document, which entered history under the name of *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion*. The part of the thesis about this novel also concerns theoretical thoughts about a creation of an enemy, which Eco described in his book *Inventing The Enemy*.

The conclusion of this thesis summarizes results of the search for the forgery in the selected novels and the way Eco uses historical forgeries in his fiction works.