

Abstract:

The diploma thesis analyzes the collection of fairy tales titled *Pohádky pod polštář* (*Fairy Tales to Put Under the Pillow*), written by psychologist Zuzana Pospíšilová and illustrated by Katarína Ilkovičová. The collection was published in the Czech Republic in 2012. The individual fairy tales are based on European folklore and adapted for the Czech cultural context. In terms of presentation, the collection is intended as a modern update of the popular children's fairy tale format.

My analysis is rooted in feminist theory and feminist cultural and literary studies, as exemplified by authors such as Pam Morris, Simone de Beauvoir, Naomi Wolf and others. The subject of power is analyzed mainly in relation to the writings of Michel Foucault, Judith Butler and Pierre Bourdieu. From this perspective, I have attempted to make an informed criticism of the stereotypical and otherwise discriminatory images of gender present in the fairy tales. On the other hand, I have also recorded the instances in which gender normativity is subverted in the collection. In addition, the thesis attempts to employ an intersectional approach to analyzing the selected text, taking into account other categories significant to the dominant social order including not only gender, but also race/ethnicity, class, sexual identity, age, disability, etc. Any of these attributes can add to multiple discrimination, besides discrimination based on gender.

A combination of quantitative research and critical discourse analysis (CDA) constitutes the methodology of this thesis in order to achieve as accurate a result as possible.

Keywords:

Content analysis, critical discourse analysis, fairy tales, feminist literary theory, feminist cultural analysis, gender, gender stereotypes, *Pohádky pod polštář*, quantitative survey.