

ABSTRACT

Theodore Fontane is best known as the author of numerous women's novels, which he wrote in the last ten years of his life. This diploma thesis deals with the topic of women's emancipation on the basis of textual analysis of two latter novels by Theodore Fontane – *Effi Briest* and *Mathilde Möhring*. In the first part, it characterizes the topic of the period women's emancipation and puts the author's biography into context. In the second part, it creates the picture of position of the main women characters. The last part describes the personal development of the women characters, on the basis of which I determine how much the women's emancipation reflects in the author's work and what is his attitude towards it. This thesis deals with the interpretation of the author's intent to illustrate the creation of an advanced character like Mathilde Möhring.

Key words: Theodore Fontane, women's emancipation, Effi Briest, Mathilde Möhring, development of women's characters, women's novels, interpretation, author's intent, counterpoint