

ABSTRACT

Mikhail Afanasievich Bulgakov was a Russian novelist and playwright active in the first half of the twentieth century. The work of this author is unforgettable for the modern Russian literary art of the first half of the twentieth century. Known by writings with very strong plots and engaging storyline, he did not fear confrontation or conflicts within individual works. His dialogs are masterfully constructed and his feel for humorous vision of life and description of the world is regarded as unreachable.

A fascinating and almost unbelievably inspiring Bulgakov's novel *The Master and Margarita* has become the model for this diploma thesis. Due to its multi-layering, broad topical range, two intersecting storylines and the content, the thesis has been named *The Novel "Universe"*. It contains everything that makes life life: love, death, betrayal, courage and cowardice, generosity and envy...

Bulgakov's success received thanks to this work is rooted in the masterful connection of the two parallel stories (ongoing in Moscow in 1930 and in Jerusalem at the beginning of our era), in fantasticality and in the view of the contemporary social situation, which are depicted in the novel, and lastly in the description of the human characters constancy.

Due to these arguments, the thesis focuses on the following aspects, which can be seen as crucial throughout the entire novel: the social and political situation in the contemporary Russia, fantasticality, biographical and autobiographical elements, the Faustian myth, Jesus and Pontius Pilate, comic and political satire in the work.

Keywords: Master, Margarita, Russia, Woland, demons, Yeshua, Pilate, myth, love, cowardice, death, magic.