

Beata Solczyk, Dramatic works of Polish writers of the first half of the nineteenth century in Poland. Genres, themes, plot conventions, creations of characters - abstract.

In the doctoral dissertation entitled “Dramatic works of Polish writers of the first half of the nineteenth century in Poland. Genres, themes, plot conventions, creations of characters” I characterize dramatic work and literary awareness of selected Polish writers of the first half of the 19th century.

Dramas written by women of that time have not yet attracted much research interest. These works were treated as the texts of the second and even a third category for years. It was quite common belief that these works were ones of dubious artistic quality that did not have a significant impact on the shape of Polish literature of that time. However, thanks to the latest research into women's literature of the 19th century the situation is slowly changing. This is caused by the fact that non-traditional literature history has become more and more important in recent decades. The literature is inspired by among others feminist research thanks to which a new and so much more favorable view on old women's literature has spread.

The main aim of the doctoral dissertation is to present how the lyrics of dramas written by women go down in the history of Polish literature in the first half of the 19th century. Analyzes carried out on fourteen dramatic lyrics make it possible to broaden knowledge about the playwriting of the Romantic era with new aspects. First of all, it allows to present the specificity of women's literary creativity in the 19th century. In addition, it is the basis for presenting historical ideas and identity myths of the nineteenth century. What is more, it is a kind of an opportunity to reconstruct a woman's view of the problems of this era.

The submitted dissertation consists of four chapters. In the first of them, I depict the issue of education and learning of women from the first half of the 19th century is presented. I expose the self-aware point of view of women on their own knowledge and creativity and also I recall information on the literary culture of the authors about whom I elaborate. I would also like to draw the attention to the state of knowledge of drama theory which has the writers of that time. I also show the role of husbands and the family in their artistic life by analyzing the cross-border elements of dramas (introductions, preface, dedications) with which nineteenth-century writers applied their works. The following chapters are an attempt to determine genres, themes, role models and ways of creating characters of these works chosen by the authors.

In the second chapter entitled *Homeland and Love* I compare the structure of four historical tragedies describing the fate of Polish rulers - Queen Jadwiga and the legendary Wanda. I pay attention to the construction of a dramatic intrigue and discuss the plot shape of individual works dealing with this issue. In addition, I characterize the creations of the title characters - I point out their advantages disadvantages and emotions.

In the third chapter *Behind the scenes of history* I analyze the fictional patterns of pseudohistorical dramas and fictional dramatic intrigues which have their source in history or mythology. I point there to an interesting regularity - here the characters of these dramas are women who are not able to sacrifice themselves for the good of the nation but all are ready to die for love. I also consider idealized images of rulers who exercise absolute power over their empires however they are easily influenced by women.

In the fourth chapter entitled *The extraordinary life of ordinary people* I interpret dramas on the middle class subjects. I draw attention here to the dilemmas of young women in this period namely the motivations of their marriage decision which has a decisive influence on their fate. I also analyze feature patterns used by works representing this dramatic genre. Additionally, I present ways to create the image of the heroines of these works.

The carried out analysis indicate that authors half of the nineteenth century of the 19th century used not only well-known motives but also strived for creative independence. They chose various dramatic genres, which provided them with various creative possibilities. They created the images of heroines that decide about the fate of their own, family and country contain patterns of behavior for society (including women) from the nineteenth century. In contrast, the literary creations depicted in the dramas of the characters contained a cautious polemic with a stereotypical view of the woman, her role models and roles to be played in society.