

Power relationship and peripheral community in the prose of 2000's Dandu (Sigartău) Simona

The switch from one political regime to another represents at least a period of insecurity. As the former rules are shattered, discontentments and needs are cried out. People demand to live peacefully, to make a decent living. At the same time, the revolutionary turmoil is increased by those who are in charge, who don't use it for the citizens' benefit. Consequently, according to the expanding sparkle of the general rising of mass discontentment, these inappropriate leaders should be deprived of their illegitimate power. A revolution will be enthusiastically looked at when the much craved for change has been made and the contemptible leader has been deprived of his authority.

Once this stage has been reached and accomplished, apparently it suffices to consider it as a flamboyant success of change. Thus, for the mass conscience, the main source of misery and unhappiness has been removed and the victory has been declared undeniable. Nevertheless, there are still questions to arise, referring to whom gets the power, which the purposes of the new leader/leaders will be, to what extent the new leaders will be genuine representatives of the citizens' wishes. There may be a high risk that the change should be superficially made and that people should be misled into thinking that there may be an end to their misfortune.

Apart from the change of the political regime and leaders, the 1989 Revolution as such should be considered by tackling more complex aspects; that is why the headline of my Ph.D. thesis confirms and insists upon the value of change and on its strikingly visible effects.

The novel belonging to the literature of 2000 envisages a less orthodox approach of the Romanian society throughout its progress from Communism to Democracy. The prose/fiction of the 2000 will undoubtedly convey an important message regarding the gains and the losses of the post-Communist society. The mechanisms of gaining and increasing power and authority will be analysed from multiple points of view, related to their major influence upon society, family and literature altogether. Accordingly, our utmost interest stands in the way that gaining power and authority influences each level previously mentioned and to what extent this mechanism alters.

Regarding the theoretical approach of this thesis, we resorted to selected bibliography referring to surveys about the transition from Communism to democracy and to literary works undertaking Romanian literature of the 2000.

The chapters analysing the novels are based on an attempt of organising themes according to my own perspective and to the identified common grounds. I have also taken into account a series of reviews belonging to some prominent critics, as well as my own abilities to construe and identify various types of behaviour and outlooks.

The first chapter, „Post-Communist Romania, from enthusiasm to disillusion” stands for a mere reflection of the post-Communist Romanian society insisting upon major alteration of all fields, which eventually triggers a win-lose situation. Consequently, what most interests us is portraying the complex outlook of the extent to which the Romanian nation has its own gains and losses after the 1989 Revolution.

By approaching this two-side perspective, our purpose is to identify and depict the reasons and the possible pretexts that stand for the emergence of new categories of ostracized, discriminated or abused people socially, economically, politically etc.

The second chapter pertains to the analysis of the main literature trends in 2000 . We are thus interested in the attitude of this new generation, in the way it is mirrored in literature, in the way it relates itself to the genuine state of the society, as well as to the previous generation.

Such defining features will be listed throughout this chapter, along with the manner in which the predictable generation -gap manifests itself.

Taking into account the fact that accusations concerning morals, language, range of themes have been made, what triggers our interest more is the way these young authors become visible and impose themselves in the literary field.

The third chapter stands for a starting point of the hermeneutical approach and pursues the alterations undergone at the social level after the switch from a communist totalitarian regime to a democratical one takes place.

One of the first outrageous aspects which will cause an astounding effect will be the nefarious, immoral language. The refusal to use the adequate terms will be the new linguistic trend.

The novel of the transition reflects the major changes that the Romanian society undergoes, freed from Communism. Consequently, the way the characters relate to the past is essential. As readers, we confront with characters’ antithetical attitudes and conduct; therefore, justifications regarding the explanation of the reasons why they seem to alternatively swing between blaming the past and being nostalgic about it are quite often needed. Most people demanded change and freedom and blood was shed in the confrontations; whereas there are still some who regret the good parts of the Communist past, there are some others who seem

contemptuous of those promoting the former values. In conclusion, there is a question which fundamentally arises: „ What is that pushes us towards both contradictory edges?

The fourth chapter continues the text interpretation approach begun in the previous chapter, passing from observing the social changes onto analysing the personal, intimate background

The main interest now shifts to the intrusion of authority into home and family intimacy, into personal space, having an impact on characters's further development. Thus, we have purposefully chosen to focus upon a series of literary works depicting the unfortunate repercussions of imposing authority over family and state. These last subchapters will reckon the diversified range of characters (the child, the woman) who will ultimately be excluded and ostracised by history, partners, parents and society as such.

The last chapter considers the enormous impact of these literary themes and motives as a justified intention and effort on behalf of the Romanian writers and literature, obviously, to gain support and to get international acclaim. Despite all these well-known efforts, it has been debated why the need for worldwide acknowledgment does not meet some standards. With intricate socially, historically, economically and psychologically framed-characters created on the verge of the dissolution of a past era at the dawn of democracy, I focused on the fact that this selection of themes portrays a literature of turmoils, of major alteration, of great losses, of failures and of discrimination.