

Entry

This dissertation, is a fourth tome published by Editorial Science Club working with Editorial Lab (The Institute of Polish Philology and Logopedy, University of Lodz), it contains article about identity problem. Authors of works, mainly members of Kolo Naukowe Edytorów, analysed various literary works e.g. poems, prose, and digital publications. Aforementioned book is divided into two parts — it consists of polish texts and English translations, thus more readers have opportunity to familiarise themselves with it. The pattern is coherent with chronology.

Theories and opinions gathered for this dissertation deal with the idea of identity which is connected with literature in many ways. Scholars explored the topic from the point of view of authors — philosophy of their works, and their biography — but also from the point of view of the literary work itself — problems described mentioned in it, its heroes, formal features or literary genre it belongs to, or even the place of publishing. It demonstrates editor's role and challenges they have to face. The ability to present different points of view makes identity an interesting topic for scholars.

At the same time it is a very complex term, present in life of every individual and every social group, thus it is a cultural construction and biographical project. For many decades identity has been object of research for sociologists, psychologists, philosophers and culture scholars. It also fascinates artists because it is the foundation of human existence, “something that is constructed and may be constructed in many different ways, which cannot emerge if it is not constructed”. Identity is a task to be done, a task that cannot be neglected.

In social discourse we talk about identity in two contexts — as a relation of equality between two objects/phenomenons or as a an object itself and all features that describe it. In terms of the latter we can name individual identity and collective identity (social identity). When describing those two we have to take into consideration spiritual, psychological and cultural aspect of given character or social group. It is important to remember that identity consist not only of distinguishing features derived from experience and on

preferences based on them but also phenomenons independent from the object, such as appearance, sex or social background.

All questions about author will explore their identity in terms of their literary work — their biography, cultural experiences, interests and intentions. They will also refer to literary characters, their features and history. It should be stated that identity is not only an anthropological phenomenon. With the use of literary tools one is able to identify literary genres and their manifestations — literary works.

Identity often appears in the discourse together with an adjective which allows to define possession.

One can name national, religious, cultural, political, regional and generational identity. They all share common features and experiences — collective identity, which also becomes a subject of literary narration.

In this dissertation readers will find literary works which present various approach toward the topic of identity. Jowita Podwysocka-Modrzejewska in an article about Jan Brzechwa presents how biography influenced poet's work. Brzechwa's stages of life are analysed and connected with his style of writing. Jowita thoroughly analyses fragments of cabarets and lyrical works. Thus the readers can familiarise themselves with lyrical journey of the author of *Talizmany*, a journey that made him one of the most famous polish fairy-tale writer, although initially it was not his intention.

Another text, written by Monika Urbańska, is devoted to Jan Lechoń, who was strongly influenced by romantic tradition. In her work, the scholar not only demonstrates poet's life and experience but also analyses his literary works and his thoughts about Adam Mickiewicz. She also finds a place for Lechoń amongst other writers of that period. Quoting authors like Kazimierz Wierzyński, Jarosław Iwaszkiewicz or Czesław Miłosz, researcher draws a solid sketch from which not only the literary portrait of the author of *Srebrne i Czarne* can be made, but also the specification of Polish interwar writings and even national identity presented in Lechoń's works.

Magdalena Górowska deals with the problem of collective experience and evolving national identity in the text devoted to *Bohii* written by Tadeusz Konwicki. The author in her analysis uses two time lines — modern times, specifically PRL period and historical times — January Uprising, parallels which shaped Polish identity through centuries. The study also includes references to the identity of the writer himself. An important point of consideration is the regional identity, connecting the inhabitants of the Vilnius region — built on sharing tragic experiences.

Ewa Mikula devoted her article to the identification of the phenomenon of immersion in literature. The author uses tools such as the theory

of concretization of Roman Ingarden, ergodic method of Espen Aarseth or semiotic conception of analysis of paperworks and digital data to demonstrate immersion in literary works. An important place in the sketch is occupied by the arrangements regarding the influence of the interactivity of electronic art on the possibility of “immersion” in the world presented in the work.

The last article in this tome, prepared by Rafał Gawin in a feuilleton-like fashion and it shows the place of culture — Dom Literatury w Łodzi. Author demonstrates how this institution works, we learn what challenges editors, graphic designers and authors face every day. We also get to know all the publishing series developed in the House of Literature and the volumes included in them.

Tome, which is presented here, does not pretend to be an exhaustive compendium of knowledge about the issue of identity, but it may become a contribution to a wider discussion. We hope that the set prepared by us will meet the expectations of readers looking for new literary and cultural perspectives, and thus will be part of the series published by Editorial Science Club (Koło Naukowe Edytorów).

Ewa Mikula