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Rozprawa doktorska pt. „Sen i marzenie senne w poezji polskiej przełomu XVIII i XIX wieku (z perspektywy nauki Oświecenia)

Summary

The doctoral thesis entitled *The Motif of Dreaming and Daydreaming in Polish Poetry of the Turn of 18th Century (from the scientific perspective of the Enlightenment)* is the result of several years of research and analysis of the 18th century scholars' perception of issues related to oneirology and somnology.

The dissertation comprises three basic sections. The first is the theory section which gathers and describes the most recognised concepts and theories related to oneirology and somnology whose authors were philosophers and physicians of the times from Aristotle to the 18th century. The following have been discussed, inter alia, Aristotle, Artemidorus from Daldis, Macrobius, Wilhelm Leibniz, John Locke, William Buchan, George Cheyne. For Polish representatives of the Enlightenment oneirologists Jan Chryzostom Bohomolec and Hugo Kołłątaj were chosen.

The second section is analytical pondering in which the theories on oneirology and somnology described in chapter one are points of reference for the analysis of the state of mind of speaking subjects from poems by Polish Enlightenment poets as exemplified by Jan Paweł Woronicz, Ludwik Kropiński, Ignacy Krasicki, Franciszek Dionizy Kniaźnin, Cyprian Godebski Or Franciszek Karpiński. Dreams which have been clearly depicted in their poems I have classified into five categories of dreams – relaxation, nightmare, erotic dreaming, dreams with the dead and sleeplessness. In the first place one needed to look into the liminal states described by the lyrical I (which are not always synonymous with the dream itself – sometimes we deal with such phenomena as daydreaming, lethargy, coma or ‘sensation of dream’), and then try to match these states with the above-mentioned theories.

The final section is bibliography that lists source texts and almost 300 publications in Polish, English and German languages. These publications served as invaluable sources of information for the analysis. In particular those which deal with the theory of literature and the methodology of literature since I took as foundation the concept ‘literature and science’ which as part of research analysis perfectly combines the two domains – literature and science. This

technique made it possible to carry out interesting research experiments as well as to draw the principal conclusion about the permeating of the Enlightenment science of human sleep and dreaming into the poetic texts that were created in those times.

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