

Summary

Dissertation title *Signatures of illness – defect's literature in Ukrainian modernism (Lesya Ukrainka, Olha Kobylanska, Volodymyr Vynnychenko, Mykola Kulish)*, were conceived as an attempt to synthetic overview of the phenomenon of insanity / mental illness in Ukrainian literature day Modernism late nineteenth and early twentieth century. Insanity, being one of the main themes of modernist literature, today does not live to see a proper discussion in the Ukrainian literary studies. The resulting so far work has moved this issue only into a selective and fragmentary way, always on the margins of the main range of research interests, thus far definitely without exhausting problem. This is a much puzzling fact, that in the literary legacy of the most important representatives of the Ukrainian modernism – Lesya Ukrainka (1871–1913), Olha Kobylanska (1863–1942), Volodymyr Vynnychenko (1880–1951) and Mykola Kulish (1892–1937) – a topic of mental illness plays a considerable, if not crucial, role. These writers deliberately analysed the stereotypes of normality, breaking previous literature taboos, which occurred around the wider diversity and otherness. Madness constituted for them one of the most important and dramatic forms of exclusion, hence the belief that the mentally ill is not so much a sick man, as enslaved, subjected to the pressure of power, deprived of the right to subjectivity, of their own forms of existence.

The purpose of this work is a multi-faceted presentation of the theme of mental illness and a particular type of character (the madman), examination of its origins, sources, cultural and literary description and analysis of selected types of insanity as well as madmen and an attempt to classify them on the material of the most representative texts of Ukrainian modernists of the breakthrough between XIX and XX centuries and early XX century. The study examined, among other issues such as variants of madness, reason and the relationship of certain types of mental illness, the relationship between the hero and the surrounding world, the symptoms of madness, social norms crossed by the hero, the method of creating characters (archetypes in literature, folklore, culture , function of the form and its message, the author's attitude to the created character), but also the correspondence of these issues (their place and importance) in the Western European tradition, understood as the main determinant of modernisation of the Ukrainian literature of the period.

In the interests of research, the trial is therefore a literary picture of mental disorders in the selected texts of Ukrainian modernists. Among the texts of Lesya Ukrainka the following

dramas were analysed *Блакитна троянда* (Błakutna trojanda; Blue rose), *Касандра* (*Kassandra*) and the narrative *Місто смутку* (Misto smutku; City of Sadness). The work of Olha Kobylianska is represented by narrative *Valse Melancolique*, and of Volodymyr Vynnychenko by narrative *Честь* (Czes't'; Honour, 1906). The subject of my lecture practice in case of playwright Mykola Kulish is a song *Народний Малахій* (Narodnyj Malakhij; *People's Malachi*). The body of text can not however, be considered as a set of closed, but only as a *example*, which is used to capture some regularity.

In this paper I use the concepts of disease, mental illness, insanity, which are not fully clear and obvious, and certainly require a more precise definition and confrontation with other terms. They have smooth definitive borders and complicated various aspects of these phenomena, that are subject to interpretation, and their clarifying needs to appeal to a variety of disciplines, especially medicine, psychiatry, psychology, philosophy, sociology, culture or literature. I am most interested in concepts that integrate the physiological aspects of the disease from the social or cultural, paying attention to the narratives of disease which are somewhat a reflection of discursive order, where the "medicine" is seen as one of the cultural or social practices. In addition, I introduce to work ideas and terms designed specifically for its needs, in order to complete the concept of presentation and interpretation of the phenomena of the disease and its aesthetic representation in literary texts: defects, defective narration, defective subject, field of disease metaphors, infirmerium and infirmarium text, semeiologic extent.

Tracking threads of disease I define defectographs, regarding them as literary experiments in the manifestation of failure. This work is a defectograph analysis of selected works, which aims to explore the relationship between different forms of discourse of madness in literary narratives, opening out at different research fields and forming part of a complex grid references. Among the discourses that make up the meanings of madness, we find its recognition in various fields, including medicine, history, culture, philosophy, religious studies, literary studies. To describe the Ukrainian modernist texts' attempt to integrate knowledge from different ranges, as well as to propose a typology of interpretive categories related to the interdisciplinary study of this phenomenon (the theory of defect). It is not possible to examine the phenomenon of insanity and describe it only with tools of one discipline of knowledge; description language should serve as a grammar of that language. Inclusive and equal status of discourse that leads to the development of knowledge in a given field - to mention marriages between humanities and medicine in the form of narrative medicine and medical humanities, holding tightly interdisciplinary nature.

Thesis of this paper is focused on questions about the modernist practice of presenting mental illness (as an objective biomedical fact and culturally shaped phenomenon), the relationship between it and the gender characters (feminist discourse remains one of those for whom studied phenomenon is not neutral), methods of linguistic shaping of the text. From the literary perspective I am interested in textualisation category, and so in literary articulations and structures, aesthetic implementation and figurative meanings. Therefore, the analysis oscillate around questions of why and how literature shapes the image and ways of understanding the illness (mental), its symptoms, metaphorical meaning, making it a part of the cultural image and mythologizing it.

The purpose of the research of this paper is to attempt to answer the questions, what is the defect, how to thematise its identity, and what is identified as defective in the Ukrainian modernist works. Work is also closer to answering the question, what image of the defect left aforementioned authors in the Ukrainian literature. What part of their vision or specific philosophy was recognized in their works? What did it meaningful for them and for us? These questions were the starting points for discussion on topic of multi-dimensionality of diseases, not only as a cultural phenomenon, dominated socially, culturally and politically, but above all diseases as a fundamental and common element to all experience.