Sylwia Stolarczyk

Institute for Literary Studies, UKSW

Index number: 3587

A Shaman-A Poetess. The creative personality of Maria Pawlikowska-Jasnorzewska.

Summary

The purpose of the dissertation is to analyze and interpret the poetry of Maria Pawlikowska-Jasnorzewska in light of the category of creative personality formulated by Jan Józef Lipski, combined with Carl Gustav Jung's psychoanalytic concept of literary interpretation. The main assumptions of the research are: the distinction between the writer's personality in the psychological sense and the artistic personality, which draws primarily from the source of the unconscious, as well as with the creation of the lyrical subject, which is a synthesis of both these personalities.

The first chapter of the thesis is an attempt to capture the personality of Maria Pawlikowska-Jasnorzewska in a psychological sense, as a woman who came from an artistic landowning family, who had to live and create in the interwar period. The chapter develops a thesis about the magical thinking as a dominant factor in Pawlikowska's personality, enabled by the survival of certain features of childhood magical thinking, by the belief in superstitions learnt at the family home and by the influence of some pagan traditions rooted in Polish culture.

The second chapter is devoted to the study of the creative personality of Maria Pawlikowska-Jasnorzewska (following the theory of Jan Józef Lipski). The reconstruction of the personality was made possible by the analysis of the poet's imagination (sensory data, thematic preferences, thematic phobias, choice of stylistic means), mentality (unconscious elements, references to the creative subject), her view of the world (style of thinking in accordance with the ideas of, for example, a given philosophical trend, the rules of existence and functioning of the world presented in the work) and the characterological properties of Pawlikowska as a creative individual.

The reconstruction of the creative personality provides a starting point for further literary studies based on Carl Gustav Jung's depth psychology and, more specifically, refers to

the third phase of psychoanalytic interpretation of literature, the nodal point of which is the function of a literary work and how it affects the recipient.

The third chapter is a journey into the world of archetypes and symbols, where, through the prism of Maria Pawlikowska-Jasnorzewska's poetry, one can observe analogies to the process of individuation described by Jung, which includes four stages of archetypal experience: confrontation with the shadow, acceptance of the androgynous nature of the psyche, liberation from the archetypes of the Wise Old Man and the Great Mother, and attainment of the self. Pawlikowska's poetry, being a representation and expression of life, is in this sense not only a testimony to the poet's individual experiences, but also to the experiences of a universal nature, the source of which is the collective imagination.