

*A Narrative Sentiment – A Terminological Draping of Fictional Emotionality*

*Summary*

The paper presents an outline of a possible examination of a narrative emotional field, which includes the feelings of the real/implied author, the narrative instance, characters, the real/implied reader, empathy and distance as affective responses in the story reception, the sensitive environment of chronotopes, the overall atmosphere, the tone, the fictional creations as such, as well as the socio-cultural contexts of the creation and reception of a work. We consider the role of the narrative flow distance, crucial for the whole observed emotional horizon. We conclude that the emotional layer of the story not only can be studied as an equal segment in the constitution of the text, but should be considered as such if the analysis strives to be complete. A sentiment of a prose work is not a mere object of observation, but a constitutional factor stepping out of the story's frame and expanding to the "real" life, which was and remains the most valuable feature of literature. Therefore the emotional landscape of the narrated material is outlined in the way which corresponds to the narratological analysis based more or less on the cognitive principles of reading.

*Keywords:* sentiment, emotion, narrative, frustration, empathy, distance, chronotope, atmosphere, reception horizon.