Tomáš Kovanda’s Master’s Thesis investigates the ways in which Indigenous spirituality is represented in two contemporary Indigenous novels, namely Louise Erdrich’s *The Last Report on the Miracles at Little No Horse* (2001) and Eden Robinson’s *Monkey Beach* (2000). It aims to discuss various images and perceptions of Indigenous spirituality, either through the lens of conventional anthropology or through the two novelists’ literary depictions.

The thesis has to be recognized for its honest attempt to explore what Indigenous spirituality means, how it has been misperceived by the colonizers’ culture and, last but not least, subjected to assimilationist policies. As such, in my view the thesis is strongest when it provides arguments about particular aspects of the novels (unfortunately not too often), such as when it outlines the differences between Robinson’s and Erdrich’s visions of the workings of Indigenous spirituality (p. 28).

On the other hand, the thesis also presents a number of problematic issues which, unfortunately, preclude a smooth and logical reading. The biggest problem is probably its structure, which, one has to admit, has gone through a significant improvement since the drafts, but it still gives impression of randomly organized ideas and comments on various things. At times, paragraphs, such as the one on “notion of love in Ojibway culture” (p. 39) do not make much sense unless they are somehow integrated in the larger, logical structure of the work (rather than introduced with merely “it might be useful”). I suspect the lack of coherent structure results in the slightly schizophrenic (no pun intended) sensation, as if the author couldn’t make up his mind whether it’s going to be an anthropological study (with relevant sections on rites of passage, sweat lodges, etc.), a literary analysis, or something else altogether. In addition, most of the time the thesis treats the novels as a documentary source to display certain cultural traditions, rather than two independent works of art, and very little is said about their literary qualities. Finally, editorial carelessness is responsible for a number of language mistakes and typos which increase towards the end.