

The thesis focuses on identifying the traces of original Slavonic mythology in the works of two Czech forefront fairy-tales collectors, Karel Jaromír Erben and Božena Němcová. The aim of the thesis is to answer the following question: Are the general characteristics of the depicted supernatural beings the result of writers' imagination, or are they the remains of much older, yet still present pagan tradition? First part of the thesis presents an analysis of the most important works of Erben and Němcová. Regarding the contemporary understanding of their work, this part questions the significance of writers' own preconceptions on one side, and the importance of the persisting remains of pagan tradition on the other, and discusses the resulting image and our contemporary understanding of the work. Following chapters summarize current knowledge of Slavonic paganism and describe its particular figures and deities. Due to the consequences of christianization, as well as its historical role in the development of Central Europe, final part of the thesis briefly sums up the culture and history of Great Moravia.