

# **La condición de víctima y victimario en los protagonistas de *Anatomía de la memoria* de Eduardo Ruiz Sosa**

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This thesis deals with the novel *Anatomía de la memoria* by Eduardo Ruiz Sosa which reconstructs the Mexican student movement focusing on a group called *Los Enfermos*. This group from Sinaloa advocated political violence and, like so many other armed groups, were victims of state violence in the so called "Dirty War" of the nineteen-seventies. *Anatomía de la memoria* tries to tell their story with an emphasis on how the veterans struggled to come to terms with their violent pasts. Based on Astrid Erll's concept of the rhetoric of collective memory, this thesis analyses how the novel distributes and constructs the roles of victims and perpetrators in the conflict between students and the Mexican State. Erll states that certain narrative modes can determine how a text conditions the elaboration of collective memory. This thesis shows how Ruiz Sosa's novel uses this narrative strategy in its portrayal of the victims and perpetrators. I argue that the antagonistic and the reflective mode dominate in the text; thus, the novel establishes the memory of the *Enfermos* as a potential part of Mexican collective memory while emphasizing the fact that the past is always (re)constructed from the present. The way in which the roles of victims and perpetrators are distributed and constructed leads to the dissolution of the dichotomy between State and students which is also influenced by the way the figure of the doppelgänger is used in the novel.