**Marko Ј. Nedić**
Matica srpska
Department for language and literature
Novi Sad

NARRATIVE PERSPECTIVES IN THE NOVEL PREŽIVETI DO
SUTRA

Summary: Grozdana Olujić’s novel Preživeti do sutra [Survive until tomorrow]
represents an important poetic basis for her later literary works. The narrative world of the
novel reveals Olujić’s new poetic tendencies and, at the same time, confirms the old ones,
which makes it possible to understand the connections between all her novels, from Izlet
u nebo [Walk to Heaven] to Glasovi u vetru [Voices in the Wind], the last that was written
(but not the last that was published). The authentic forms of narration, as well as a complex
structure of the novel which combines different characters’ points of view, confirm
the fact that all Grozdana Olujić’s novels are based on a well-considered idea, which is in
line with the most important works of both European and Serbian literature.
Keywords: Grozdana Olujić, narration, narrative perspectives, story time and narrative time, polyphonic novel.

**Petar I. Pijanović**
University of Belgrade

NARRATOR AND TYPES OF NARRATION IN THE NOVEL
PREŽIVETI DO SUTRA
Summary: Grozdana Olujić’s novels are characterized by creative autonomy, in
spite of being ideologically censured not long after the affirmative critiques that Olujić
got at the very beginning of her literary career. This is the reason why the novel Preživeti
do sutra [Survive until tomorrow], written in the 1960s, was published five decades later.
Considered from its authentic, creative and chronological point of view, the novel reflects
the author’s knowledge of the characteristics of contemporary Serbian and European literature.
Olujić uses the polycentric type of narration, which offers a multidimensional
picture of wartime life, through the points of view of different residents of Karanovo ‒
characters of different ages, social statuses and political opinions ‒ which makes this novel
one of the most representative in the author’s opus.
Keywords: Grozdana Olujić, narration, reflective narrator, narrative polycentrism.

**Slavica О. Garonja Radovanac**
University of Kragujevac
Faculty of Philology and Arts
Department for Serbian Literature

WOMEN’S IDEOLOGICAL NOVEL AND A NEW VIEW ON THE
THEME OF WAR IN GROZDANA OLUJIĆ’S NOVEL PREŽIVETI DO
SUTRA

Summary: The paper examines the ideological context of Grozdana Olujić’s novel
Preživeti do sutra [Survive until tomorrow]. The subtext of the novel ‒ an implicit critique
of the dominant ideology, as well as a powerful anti-war idea ‒ contributed to the
author’s decision not to publish the novel at the time it was written (1959‒1962). The
paper analyses some ideological “crisis points” of the novel which shed a different light
on several proclaimed “truths” (the protests of 27th March 1941; ideology as a way of
dehumanization ‒ the character of Crni; partisans’ military actions which resulted in German
retaliation) and introduce certain long-lasting taboos into Serbian literature (ustasha
genocide against Serbs in Croatia, the Allied bombing of Yugoslavia in 1944, etc.).
Keywords: war, ideology, women’s writing.

**Jelena S. Panić-Maraš**
University of Belgrade
Teacher Education Faculty
Department for Serbian Language, Literature and Methodology of Teaching Serbian
Language and Literature

THE MOTIF OF THE CURSED BEAUTY IN GROZDANA OLUJIĆ’S
NOVEL PREŽIVETI DO SUTRA

Summary: The paper deals with the motif of the cursed beauty in the novel Preživeti
do sutra [Survive until tomorrow]. Special attention is paid to the elements of Naturalism,
to hereditary traits of personality, as well as to certain folkloric and mythological-poetic
features that contributed to the development of the motif. The devastating impact of the
cursed beauty is stressed. At the same time, the paper deals with Olujić’s way of incorpoПанић-
Мараш С. Ј., Мотив уклете лепоте у роману…; УЗДАНИЦА; 2019, XVI/1, стр. 53–60
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rating the motif into the theme of wartime life in the small town of Karanovo. By depicting
personal lives of the characters, the author accurately describes the society during the
epoch of the Second World War in our country. Grozdana Olujić presented the motif of the
cursed beauty in a contemporary way, as a multidimensional phenomenon, which makes
her narration highly modernistic.
Keywords: cursed beauty, curse, Naturalism, demonic, mythological-poetic elements,
modernistic narrative, Lilith.

**Slađana V. Jaćimović**
University of Belgrade
Teacher Education Faculty

BETWEEN CRUELTY AND FORGIVENESS –
CONTEXTUALISATION OF GROZDANA OLUJIĆ’S NOVEL
PREŽIVETI DO SUTRA

Summary: The paper deals with motifs of cruelty and forgiveness in the novel
Preživeti do sutra [Survive until tomorrow] in the context of Grozdana Olujić’s early novels.
It is seemingly paradoxical that tragic and devastating effects of the war are pushing
the characters into developing their hidden potentials and becoming truly compassionate
human beings. In Olujić’s early novels the picture of the world is highly pessimistic. A
province (typically localized in the small town of Karanovo) is opposed to a big city (Belgrade);
in the novel Preživeti do sutra the position of Belgrade is different ‒ it is on the
margins of the plot, but the events that take place in Belgrade represent a certain trigger
for those that take place in Karanovo.
The central motif of the novel is the motif of the characters’ metamorphosis in
the situation where they must “survive until tomorrow“. The transformation of life circumstances
‒ establishment of occupation ruling power, new rules of life, the omnipresent
threat of death ‒ deeply changes both family and the characters’ life. In Olujić’s novels
dedicated to young adults (Izlet u nebo [Walk to Heaven], Divlje seme [Wild seed], Ne budi
zaspale pse [Don’t wake the sleeping dogs]), the characters react cruelly to cruelty, while
in the novel Preživeti do sutra they react with compassion and self‑sacrifice, defending
their right to life. The metamorphosis of Natalija and Stevan is particularly noticeable. In
dangerous and life‑threatening situations, these two characters develop the aspects of their
personality they were unaware of.
In the novel Preživeti do sutra, the war is not depicted through epic battles and true
heroism, but through the survival of the ordinary people living on the margins of the important
historical events; in Olujić’s novels with post‑war thematics, the main characters,
ordinary people as well, face difficult life circumstances which reflect a pessimistic view
of the future, with very little hope for a proclaimed ’better tomorrow’.
Keywords: genesis of a novel, modernist literary techniques, Second World War,
destruction, self‑destruction, pessimistic view of life, Karanovo – Belgrade, the motif of
metamorphosis.

**Nikola Z. Marinković**
University of Belgrade
Faculty of Philology
PhD student

THE MEANING OF CHONOTOPE: SPACE AND TIME IN
GROZDANA OLUJIĆ’S NOVEL PREŽIVETI DO SUTRA

Summary: The paper deals with chronotype in Grozdana Olujić’s novel Preživeti
do sutra [Survive until tomorrow] in relation to the Second World War, an epoch with
important cultural and historic characteristics, and to the fictional town of Karanovo, as
a typical setting of most of the author’s novels. The analysis shows that the description
of the geographic location of the town is extensive enough to comprise semantic and historic
characteristics of the area wider than prototypical Vojvodina. Rural mountainous regions,
with two rivers, as well as a stylistic use of dialects spoken by some subordinate characters,
point to the author’s intention to depict the life of the middle class in a Serbian small
town during the Second World War.
The main characters of the novel are not portrayed as representatives of the ideology
which was typical for post-war literature; on the contrary, special attention is given to
their everyday life, development and maturing. The elements of a novel of formation are
combined with deeper archetypical layers; it makes Preživeti do sutra an important novel
which, although decades later, fills the gap in Serbian literary fiction about the Second
World War by offering a different perspective, specific for all Olujić’s novels.
Keywords: chronotope, genre, location, Second World War, middle class, Grozdana
Olujić.

**Strahinja D. Polić**
University of Belgrade
Teacher Education Faculty
Department for Serbian Language, Literature and Methodology of Teaching Serbian
Language and Literature

SEMANTIC ANALYSIS OF THE BODY IN GROZDANA OLUJIĆ’S
NOVEL PREŽIVETI DO SUTRA

Summary: The paper deals with the semantic implications of the body in the novel
Preživeti do sutra [Survive until Tomorrow] by Grozdana Olujić. The paper focuses
on body motifs presented as complex anthropologic and social phenomena, which have
various ways of representation in the novel. Different forms of somatism express various
meanings through the novel: determining social relations, the sense of self‑consciousness
and sexual self‑understanding. Furthermore, the paper emphasizes understanding of the
body as a process of symbolic representation in the narrative, mostly in the modes of
describing the town of Karanovo, its streets and exteriors. The novel analysis shows the
aspects of somatic representations as a frequent and omnipresent element of Grozdana
Olujić’s narratives, making it a unique poetic constant.
Keywords: haptics, somatism, the semantics of the body, Grozdana Olujić.

**Olja S. Vasileva**
University of Kragujevac
Faculty of Philology and Arts
Center for the Study of Language and Literature

SHADOW AND/OR NOTHING
Figuration of the leitmotif of shadow in Grozdana Olujić’s novel Preživeti
do sutra

Summary: This paper examines the latest Grozdana Olujić’s novel ‒ Preživeti do
sutra [Survive until tomorrow] ‒ from the point of view of semantics and philosophy, with
special attention paid to the leitmotif of shadow, largely present in this novel, as well as
in some other Olujić’s novels. The leitmotif is highly recognizable in the characters’ appearance;
therefore it controls the reminiscences (historical-literary aspect) in the novel
on several semantic levels, and, moreover, it develops into a sign or a symbol of the novel.
Keywords: novel,

motif, shadow, poetics, author, literary character.

**Branko A. Ilić**
University of Kragujevac
Faculty of Education in Jagodina
Department for Philology
GROZDANA OLUJIĆ’S NOVEL PREŽIVETI DO SUTRA AT THE AGE
OF RENEWED MODERNISM IN SERBIA

Summary: The paper analyses two of earliest Grozdana Olujić’s novels, Izlet u nebo
[Walk to Heaven] (published in a censored version) and the unpublished Preživeti do sutra
[Survive until tomorrow], in the context of the author’s opposition to the ideological concept
in literature after World War II, as well as her involvement in the renewed Serbian
modernism during the 1950s. The paper reveals narrative and poetic homologies between
these novels and the most prominent texts of Serbian modernism after WWII.
Keywords: Serbian modernism, novel, Grozdana Olujić.

**Nina B. Marković**
University of Kragujevac
Faculty of Education in Jagodina
Department for Philology

LYRIC ELEMENTS IN GROZDANA OLUJIĆ’S NOVEL PREŽIVETI
DO SUTRA

Summary: The paper analyses lyric elements of Grozdana Olujić’s prose in the
novel Preživeti do sutra [ Survive until tomorrow], both from the aspect of theme and
motif, i. e. the formal level, and the aspect of narration. Lyric elements of the prose are
recognized in the personified representation of inanimate objects, in the materialization of
abstract concepts, in the association and repetition/variation of motifs; in the transformation
of action segments into poetic images and in the way the characters emotionally
react ‒ strongly, deeply, with every fiber of their being. It can be concluded that these lyric
elements in the novel Preživeti do sutra contribute to nuancing the characters’ emotional
and mental state, describing their rich inner life and their relations with both family members
and other characters. In addition to this, the lyric elements support the symbolization
of the motif and the description of the turbulent wartime life.
Keywords: Grozdana Olujić, Preživeti do sutra, lyric elements of prose, personification,
materialization of abstract concepts, association and variation of motifs.

**Milica M. Kecojević**
University of Belgrade
Faculty of Philology
Department for Serbian Literature and South Slavic Literature
PhD student

NARRATIVE MODES IN GROZDANA OLUJIĆ’S NOVEL
PREŽIVETI DO SUTRA

Summary: This paper analyzes narrative modes in Grozdana Olujić’s novel
Preživeti do sutra [Survive until tomorrow, 2017]. The analysis points to some important
characteristics of Gozdana Olujić’s modern poetics such as fragmented narration, the mosaic
image of the world, the polyphony of narrative voices, subjectivization, i.e. using lyric elements
in prose, intertextuality, latent presence of (auto)biographical experience, discrete
humor etc. Preživeti do sutra is the second novel Olujić wrote, but it was published as the
last one. It can therefore be considered as the nucleus of the most important themes and
motifs of the author’s prose (war, childhood, growing up, youth rebellion, love and death
(Eros and Thanatos), etc.).
Keywords: Grozdana Olujić, novel, family saga, polyphony, subjective mode of
narration, lyricism, intertextuality, humor.

**Vanja V. Jekić**
Regional centre for gifted children “Mihajlo Pupin”
Pančevo
YOUNG CHARACTERS AND THEIR WORLD IN GROZDANA
OLUJIĆ’S NOVEL PREŽIVETI DO SUTRA
Summary: The paper analyzes young characters and their world in Grozdana Olujić’s
novel Preživeti do sutra [Survive until tomorrow]. The analysis aims to present two
different levels of space and time ‒ a picture of an idyllic, utopian space on one side, and
a chthonic, anti-utopian space during apocalyptic wartime on the other. The comparative
method is used to show the way that the utopian image of the world from the beginning of
the novel transforms into the anti-utopian one, as the plot of the novel unfolds. The motifs
and symbols of light and the senses of smell and touch, embedded in the picture of childhood,
are gradually being replaced by the devastating images of war. The escape from
reality has become desirable for the young characters, but it is achievable only in their
imagination and memories of the carefree times. It turns out that there is no such thing as a
real return to childhood, and that young characters are forced to grow up before their time.
As young characters are the center of Olujić’s attention, the paper deals with the problem
of youth identity as well. In relation to the problem of identity, the adult protagonists (the
father, the mother, the grandfather and the grandmother) have been examined and the
analysis shows that they are inseparably connected with their descendants, with space and
time. It can be concluded that the boundary between the two worlds ‒ the world of youth
and the world of adults ‒ gradually disappears in the novel due to historical circumstances
that make adult characters powerless like children, and, on the other hand, force young
characters to grow up before their time.
Keywords: childhood, youth, ancestors, time, space, chthonic, utopia, symbolics.

**Emina S. Perić Komnenović**
University of Kragujevac
Faculty of Philology and Arts
Department for Serbian Literature
PhD student

PICTURE OF AMERICA IN GROZDANA OLUJIĆ’S NOVEL
GLASOVI U VETRU

Summary: The paper examines the ways of (re)constructing the relation between
the subject and the Other in Grozdana Olujić’s novel Glasovi u vetru [Voices in the Wind],
from the perspective of imagology.
Starting from the implications of the imagological theory, the picture of America in
the novel has been explored (by revealing a system of keywords, repetitions, stereotypes,
auto image and hetero image). It was determined that the picture is necessary for achieving
some of the basic poetic premises in the novel. In addition to this, the impact of alterity on
permanent (re)construction of the subject’s identity, which is fundamentally fluid (from
the point of view of postmodernism), is analyzed. It can be concluded that the picture of
America is multidimensional, as well as the main character’s attitude towards it ‒ it is a
dynamic relation between self-image and image of Others.
Keywords: Grozdana Olujić, Glasovi u vetru, Others, alterity, identity, imagology.

**Snežana P. Marković**
University of Kragujevac
Faculty of Education in Jagodina
Department for Didactics and Methodology

PICTURE OF THE WORLD THROUGH PERSONAL LENSES ‒
GROZDANA OLUJIĆ AS INTERVIEWER

Summary: The paper focuses on the interviews that Grozdana Olujić took in the
middle of the last century with literary authors and critics; the interviews have been in the
shadow of Olujić’s fairy tales and novels. Twenty‑seven interviews, published in the book
Марковић П. С., Слика света пропуштена кроз …; УЗДАНИЦА; 2019, XVI/1, стр. 177–200
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entitled Pisci o sebi [Authors about themselves] (1959), represent an invaluable material
for the literary history and offer a detailed description of social and cultural circumstances
during the post‑war period. Although Grozdana Olujić dedicated the book to the future
generations, as a record of an era and a mentality in it, she unintentionally left some clues
about herself. The themes she chose, the way she conducted interviews and wrote interview
transcriptions reflect the thematics and lingual‑stylistic characteristics that can be
recognized in her later literary work ‒ existentialistic way of thinking about the meaning
of life, about the purpose of intellectual engagement; lyric elements in prose, introspection,
reminiscences, citations.
Keywords: Grozdana Olujić, interview, social circumstances, existentialistic way
of thinking, lyric elements in prose, citations.

**Maja М. Dimitrijević**
University of Kragujevac
Faculty of Education in Jagodina
Department for Didactics and Methodology

DIDACTIC POTENTIALS OF GROZDANA OLUJIĆ’S BILI SU DECA
KAO I TI…

Summary: The paper deals with possibilities of interpreting selected texts from
Grozdana Olujić’s Bili su deca kao i ti… [Once they were children like you…] in teaching
literature in lower elementary grades. The analysis involves the procedure of using
literary and biographical data in teaching about authors and scientists that are prescribed
by the lower elementary curriculum. It can be concluded that popular science texts and
informative texts, as well as autobiographies and short biographies of famous writers and
scientists, have a great didactic potential on the condition that their content, language and
style are adapted for young readers. Interesting, dynamic stories about writers’, artists’
and scientists’ childhood, family environment and creative development can motivate
children to read and analyze literary and scientific literary texts, to develop their reading
comprehension skills and to expand their general knowledge.
Keywords: Grozdana Olujić, methodology of teaching literature, stories about
childhood, biography, popular science texts, informative texts.

**Julijana S. Despotović**
**Aleksandra D. Rakić**
University of Kragujevac
Faculty of Philology and Arts
Center for the Study of Language and Literature

STYLISTIC AND LINGUISTIC FEATURES OF GROZDANA
OLUJIĆ’S COLLECTION OF FAIRY TALES SEDEFNA RUŽA I
DRUGE BAJKE

Summary: The main goal of this paper is to analyze Grozdana Olujić’s fairy tales
from the aspect of linguo-stylistics and to examine stylistic and linguistic characteristics
and devices of the fairy tales that have not been the object of research studies. The paper
aims to give a deep insight into the main linguistic features of the genre used by Grozdana
Olujić, primarily at the syntactic level of analysis. The differences between literary fairy
tales and folktales are examined as well.
Keywords: fairy tale, syntactical stylistic devices, Grozdana Olujić, free indirect
speech.

**Marija S. Raković**
University of Kragujevac
Faculty of Philology and Arts
Center for the Study of Language and Literature
Kragujevac

LINGUO-STYLISTIC APPROACH TO THE NOVEL GLASAM ZA
LJUBAV BY GROZDANA OLUJIĆ

Summary: The paper analyses lingua-stylistic features in the novel Glasam za
ljubav [I vote for love] written by Grozdana Olujić. The analysis aims to determine stylistic
devices at all language levels, particularly morphological, lexical, syntactic and
textual stylistic devices, as the most dominant in the novel. At the morphological level,
the following features are considered: (1) markedness of morphological categories
and (2) expressive value of morphological categories (primarily the usage of verb forms).
Concerning lexical stylistic devices, the emphasis is put on the following: (1) expressive
lexis and (2) lexis with particular functional-stylistic markedness. At the level of syntactic
stylistics, the paper deals with differences between syntactic stylistic devices and
syntactic synonymy on one side, and the opposition between nominal and verbal styles,
as well as the different procedures of achieving syntactic expressiveness on the other. The
following aspects of textual stylistics, a relatively new field of stylistic research, are examined:
(1) strong textual positions; (2) textual stylistic conjunctions; (3) points of view, and
(4) intertextuality, metatext, autoreferentiality. Furthermore, the analysis comprises the
use of stylistic devices which contribute to Grozdana Olujić’s writing style, to build the
characters and understand the message of the novel. It can be concluded that these
devices contribute to the uniqueness of language and style of Grozdana Olujić’s writing.
Keywords: linguo-stylistics, stylistic devices, morphological stylistic devices, lexical
stylistic devices, syntactic stylistic devices, textual stylistic devices, Glasam za ljubav,
Grozdana Olujić.