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Abstract

The grotesque features of the Hungarian 1968: *One Minute Stories* by István Örkény

István Örkény (1912-1979) is one of the most significant writers of the Hungarian literature and the Middle-European grotesque in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. As a short-story writer and dramatist, he is worldwide known and his art of writing exerted a significant influence on the contemporary Hungarian Literature. The article investigates how his *One Minute Stories* short-stories – which he began writing in the Sixties after years of compulsory silence to which the intellectuals who took part actively in the 1956 revolution were forced by the totalitarian regime of János Kádár – reflect and embody the world around him in a surrealistic, ironic and sarcastic way and by metacommunication. As a mature author living then in the happy and satisfied “goulash communism” society, he had seen that world turned upside down more than once.

Keywords: 1968, Hungarian literature, Middle-European grotesque, János Kádár, totalitarianism.