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The Fairy Tales of Ivana Brlić-Mažuranić and Children's Literature

This paper analyses seven fairy tales of Ivana Brlić-Mažuranić which are not part of the *Priče iz davnine* (*Croatian Tales of Long Ago*) compilation. Four of these were published in magazines in the author's lifetime, while three remained manuscripts. Some of the fairy tales saw publication following the author's death in the book *Basne i bajke* (*Fables and Fairy Tales*) in 1943 by the Croatian Publishing and Bibliographic Institute, as well as a more recent edition of the book in 1993; however, there has been an almost universal lack of critical and literary-historical reception. The paper provides a context for these fairy tales within the author's literary oeuvre, and examines the concepts and notions of the child which they contain. The paper attempts to define a discourse relation between the author's concept of the fairy tale and the notion of a child, as well as voice certain common poetic, particularly neo-romantic, beliefs in the formation of the narrative space of fairy tales.

Key words: Ivana Brlić-Mažuranić, fairy tale