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Connections between Nietzsche's *Zarathustra* and Krleža's work on the example of *The Days of Long Ago*

The main intention of this paper is to show evident connections between Nietzsche's masterpiece *Thus Spoke Zarathustra*, and Krleža's memoir entries *Diary 1914–1917: The Days of Long Ago I* and *Diary 1918–1922 : The Days of Long Ago II*. The analysis focuses on seven memoir entries from the war period of 1914 – 1918, where *Zarathustra* motifs are observable in Krleža's writings. It is argued that Krleža's reading of *Zarathustra* is unsystematic, impulsive and emotional, as well as that there are obvious contrasts in his interpretation: aesth/etics, life/death, creation/demolition, ecstasy/skepticism. Intimate readings of young Krleža show how he combines a close/distant relationship towards his mentor in accordance with his own po/ethic (antitetička vrteška).

Key words: *Thus Spoke Zarathustra*, *The Days of Long Ago*, Friedrich Nietzsche, Miroslav Krleža, observable motifs, contrasts, antitetička vrteška, intimate reading