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Genre, Genus and Croatology

Following the constructivist approach to literary genres, the article focuses on different genre definitions of the oldest printed Croatian story of the wolf and seven young kids. The narrative under discussion here is “Priča o kozličih”, published in 1877 in the second volume of Ljudevit Tomšić’s collection of children’s stories, *Djetinji vrtić*. This article presents and evaluates three crucial folkloristic definitions – thematic (Aarne, Thompson & Uther), structural (Propp) and functional (Rumpf) – by confronting their insights with the available ethnographic, historiographic and literary studies data on reading and listening, educating and publishing, as well as traditional and urban modes of upbringing characteristic for the late nineteenth-century Croatian society.

Key words: fairy tales, animal tales, cautionary tales, Croatian children’s literature, literary genres