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Expressions and Forms of Exile in Vintilă Horia

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One of the most fascinating representatives of the Romanian exile, even though he is less famous when compared to his great contemporaries Mircea Eliade, Eugène Ionesco or E.M. Cioran, Vintilă Horia represents an interesting example of artistic capacity to empathize with the protagonists of his own work. All his great novels (*The Knight of Resignation, A Tomb in the Sky* or *God Was Born in Exile*) include the recurrent image of tragic exiles unexpectedly confronted with the harsh reality of uprooting and forced to come to terms with the new world they reach, sometimes after a challenging or dangerous journey. The Latin poet Ovid in *God Was Born in Exile* (*Dieu est né en exil*, 1960) is perhaps Horia's most remarkable character, the protagonist's exile to Tomis representing an expression of the author's own painful exile after World War II, when he was forced to leave Romania for good. Ovid's exile and then his journeys stand for a complex process of initiation, completed only when the poet also has the revelation of his future possible symbolic rebirth and foresees his way to spiritual redemption. *[Article copies available for a fee from The Transformative Studies Institute. E-mail address: journal@transformativestudies.org Website: http://www.transformativestudies.org ©2024 by The Transformative Studies Institute. All rights reserved.]*

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