

The Disciple, the Romanian Hesychasm Influence on the Novel *Zahei Orbul*

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Abstract

The study tries to give a different interpretation of the novel *Zahei Orbul* in order to prove the Orthodox Church relevance for the Romanian culture. After presenting the most important interpretations of the novel, the research develops a personal reading of the text in relation to the model of Christian discipleship and founded in Voiculescu's writings. The fact that Voiculescu was a member of the Antim movement gives a basis for such an attempt. The way in which other members of this community describe their spiritual experience resembles the messages that *Zahei Orbul* enfolds. Considered as a formative journey, the events from novel can be seen as stages of a Christian development: from assuming the world to assuming responsibility for it, from seeking justice to forgiving in love and from serving your own miracle to ministering for others.