

Jerzy Stempowski (1893–1969) fled to Hungary in September 1939. As he didn't want to integrate in the society of Polish refugees, he kept himself far from Hungarian literary life. He remained in the Carpathian Mountains, because he didn't want to emigrate. After a deep crisis and serious illness he was reborn as a new personality. He accepted the role of the emigré writer, but he had to rebuild his own literary strategy. He understood that, instead of a great monograph on the history of literary conventions, he will express his experience in fragmentaric essays of a lonely traveller. This new persona is well known in the history of the Polish school of essay as a "leisurely passer-by".

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