

The article is a reflection on the fictionalized essay *Istanbul: Memories and the City* by Orhan Pamuk, which is analyzed here in the context of the entire works of the Turkish Nobel Prize winner. All Pamuk’s novels are consistently maintained in the mood of nostalgia for the past, searching for the mystery, and their protagonist is the space of Istanbul. In this essay, the author defines the melancholy, to which he discursively continually returns, as *hüzün* as a special kind of sadness appropriate for the Turkish culture. The purpose of this article is therefore to describe this phenomenon using comparative recognition, reflection on the experience of the past in contemporary historical culture, and also tools of humanistic geography. *Hüzün* then appears as a kind of melancholy of a place, but also as a special form of melancholic writing.