

sonu, aktivistički roman je gotovo isključivo usredotočen na neprekidnu potragu glavnog junaka. Za razliku od junaka tradicionalnog romana, aktivistički junak ne traži konačni izlaz iz specifične situacije već je uključen u besciljnu potragu za vlastitim identitetom, vlastitim nekomformističkim Ja."

Mnogi američki kritičari svrstavaju Rotha u pisce aktivističkog romana. H. Weinberg naglašava utjecaj aktivističkog junaka Bellowa na suvremeni američki židovski roman pa čak i spominje »Školu Saula Bellowa« koju čine Mailer, Salinger, Malamud, Gold i Roth. Ne možemo se složiti s mišljenjem H. Weinberg da je aktivistički roman Philipa Rotha pod utjecajem Bellowa. Roth unosi u američki aktivistički roman novu dimenziju – izraženu potrebu junaka za afirmacijom vlastite ličnosti u društvenoj stvarnosti suvremene Amerike. Time se Roth izdvaja iz suvremene literarne tradicije a naročito pisaca američkog židovskog romana.



Ovaj tekst dio je šire studije pod naslovom »Philip Roth i zaokupljenost Kafkom«.

1. »Together these pieces reveal to me a continuing preoccupation with the relationship between the written and the unwritten world. . . It is more useful to me than the destination between imagination and reality, or art and life, first, because everyone can think through readily enough to the clear cut differences between the two, and second, because the worlds that I feel myself shuttling every day couldn't be more succinctly described. Back and forth, back and forth, bearing fresh information, detailed instructions, garbled messages, desperate inquiries, naive expectations, baffling new challenges. . . in all, cast somewhat in the role of the courier Barnabas, whom the Land Surveyor K. enlists to traverse the steep winding road between the village and the Castle in Kafka's novel about the difficulties of getting through.« (Roth: *Reading Myself and Others*, New York, 1975, uvod)
2. »The ways in which Kafka allowed an obsession to fill every corner of every paragraph, and the strange grave comedy he was able to make of the tedious, enervating rituals of accusation and defense, furnished me with any number of clues as to how to give imaginative expression to preoccupations of my own.« (»In Search of Kafka and Other Answers«, *New York Times Book Review*, February 15, 1976, 6-7)
3. »Not until I had got hold of guilt as a comic idea, did I begin to feel myself lifting free and clear of my last book and my old concerns.« (*Reading Myself and Others*, 20)
4. »Looking for Kafka's landmarks, I had, to my surprise, come upon some landmarks that felt to me like my own.« (»In Search of Kafka and Other Answers«, *New York Times Book Review*, February 15, 1976, 6-7)
5. Martin Green: *A Philip Roth Reader*, New York, 1980, uvod.
6. »It is as though the American public, having for a decade been cast in one painful or degrading role after another – Kennedy's orphans, Johnson's patriots, Nixon's patsies – has now been assigned to play the part of the Land Surveyor K. in Kafka's *Castle*.« (*Reading Myself and Others*, New York, 1975, 173)
7. »I had read somewhere that he used to giggle to himself when he worked. . . My students may have thought I was being strategically blasphemous or simply entertaining them when I began to describe the movie that could be made of *The Castle*, with Groucho Marx as K. and Chico and Harpo as the two assistants.« (ibid., 19)
8. »Sheer Playfulness and Deadly Seriousness are my closest friends. . . I am also on friendly terms with Deadly Playfulness, Playful Playfulness, Serious Playfulness, Serious Seriousness, and Sheer Sheerness.« (ibid., 101)
9. »Kafka's questions are not only unanswerable but also unquestionable. This is one of the secrets of his art: he wields the magic by which to remove the question mark from the questionable. Where he succeeds, the questions have been transformed into an undisputable givenness, something as affirmative as trees or mountains or oceans or odradeks.« (Erich Heller: *Kafka*, Glasgow, 1977, 31)
10. »Kafka was the spiritual pioneer of the territory explored by the novelists of the fifties and sixties (Bellow, Mailer, Salinger, Malamud, Roth, Gold, Styron, Casill), the territory of the quest for meaning, of the quest for access to the spiritual world, and of the human assault on the divine.« (Helen Weinberg: *The New Novel in American Fiction*, (Ithaca, 1970, predgovor)
11. »The activist novel is postabsurd and starts with a disavowal of the absurdist world and its destructive terms. Whether the absurd terms of a rationalistic and materialistic world still govern that world or not is not at issue in the activist novels.« (ibid.,)
12. Albert Camus: *Mit o Sizifia*, Sarajevo, 1963, 125.
13. »He is a very particular consciousness but without static characteristics; we know him only by his choices and actions. He is a particular process of continuity that defines the Kafkaian view of human condition.« (Helen Weinberg: *The New Novel in American Fiction*, 17)
14. »His major concern is with the active self-consciousness, the active self-awareness, of characters full of high energy who are intellectual migrants from the norms of domestic morality and ambition in a closed, money making society. . . In substance, this activist fiction is almost wholly concerned with the details of a central hero's energetic quest. . . His real concern is with his privately hoping, socially nonconforming, existential self.« (*Daedalus*, 1963).

# razmisli, pokušaj

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## NJIH, VETROKAZ

navlačim rukavice  
na uši  
iza uma  
kaput u jeziku  
u kaputu duva  
zarda  
škripi  
»kroz mene prolaz u grad patnje vodi«  
svuda tvoji plameni tragovi  
vрати se (pesmo)  
u kuću, u stih,  
zapiši  
»ipak se okreće«  
putokaza

## TVRDOGLAVI PITON

u izvrsnim O Kolnostima  
objektivnim vidi  
kaže  
čita  
(samo što ne) piše

## SUNCOBRAN!

u već pomenutim O. K.  
suncobran podvlačim \_\_\_\_\_ podvukao  
znači O. K. D.  
u daljem tekstu  
dušek!

## KAMION!

ukratko polovan teret  
u tim okolnostima  
na plaži noge  
papir na ramenim  
frotir usoljen peva:  
»čuj kako nežno šapuće  
frizider vagona  
da li da je  
lokomotiva oplodila  
ah« (završen citat)

## Eh veznici (uzvici)

funkcija njihova u pesmi  
u snošaju pod tvojim prozorčetom  
da znači ne mora  
tri puta  
oblačno je upotrebljena (reč  
pigment) gricka mrkvu  
otkačala skretničara u šecerlemi  
u rokovniku  
ozračeni pitonci

## RAZMISLI, POKUŠAJ

butine listaju stranice  
nemoralne štamparije  
čelavu glavicu ukrašenu kudeljom

neka zmija (po)kuša  
kad već šapće  
bilo koja jabuko  
u osveljenom prozoru  
vrata (vrat, visok tlak)  
jesu otključali

prvi put  
logično  
disciplinovano razmisli.

pokucaj,  
otkucaj iz lovišta  
infanta vodi  
naš duhoviti otac  
getruda se kikoće prodornim  
piskavim nogama