

## **“Exploring Home and Alienation – Conversations on Children’s Literature, Trauma and Identity”**

*16th November 2023, University in Nitra, Slovakia, guest lecture by Erzsébet Fanni Tóth*

At the Literary Conversations and Readings II series hosted by Constantine the Philosopher University’s Central European Studies Department in Nitra, a thought-provoking discussion unfolded. Erzsébet Fanni Tóth, Head of the Trauma Institute of the Faculty of Psychotherapy Science of Sigmund Freud University, joined journalist and writer Mag. Diána Marosz in an engaging dialogue.

The event centered on the theme of “Home and Alienation.” It encompassed diverse topics like transgenerational trauma, identity, bilingual environments, and children’s literature. Both authors shared excerpts from their books, such as Ass Prof. Dr Tóth’s “Speak, My Child!”, narrating a Czechoslovakian Hungarian family’s tale during historical turmoil, and Mag Marosz’s “Benőke and Hanga: Bilingual Siblings,” exploring bilingualism within families. While intended for children, these works offer profound insights applicable to both young readers and adults, addressing trauma management, uncovering family histories, and navigating bilingual settings as Hungarian minorities.

Guiding this intimate conversation was Univ. Doz. Dr Gabriella Petres Csizmadia, an instructor at the Institute of Hungarian Language and Literature.

This event, supported by the KultMinor Minority Cultural Fund and through the Bázis Association, illuminated the intersection of literature, identity, and intergenerational trauma narratives.

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