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РОМАНИТЕ НА ПРОБУЖДАНЕТО – ЛИТЕРАТУРНИЯТ МОНОМИТ

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THE NOVELS OF AWAKENING – THE LITERARY MONOMYTH

This article looks at two contemporary Greek works – Eugenia Fakinou's "The Great Green" and Lena Divani's "Nadia" – as novels of awakening, i.e. novels in which the protagonists reject the dominating patriarchal myths of women's family and social role, and the way of life that is prescribed for them in order to find their true identity, vocation, and place in the world. The comparative analysis is based on the monomyth paradigm as formulated by Joseph Campbell in "The Hero with a Thousand Faces" with a focus, however, on the female aspects of the inner transformation which the heroes undergo. While Joanna from "The Great Green" awakens her true self through art, but her heroic journey ends somewhat ambiguously, leaving to the reader to figure out what happened to her, Divani's central character Nadia succeeds in slaying the dragon of conformity and convention, figuratively speaking, and achieves the "freedom to live" of the mythic heroes.

Keywords: novels of awakening, Modern Greek literature, monomyth, female hero
