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EMOTIONAL OPPOSITIONS IN BULGARIAN POETRY

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The article describes oppositions whose members represent axiologically marked nomens of feelings found in excerpts from Bulgarian poetry. Especially productive among substantive oppositions are the emotive oppositions *радост – мъка, радост – скръб* and *радост – тъга* (*joy – sorrow*, *grief*, *sadness*). The lexical meanings of the members of the oppositions in the studied texts take on additional semantic shades. I also analyse the stylistic function of antonym-synonym paradigms as a means of intensifying negative evaluations. Three types of oxymorons are considered: oxymorons represented by compound words, oxymorons based on coordinating and subordinating relations, sentential oxymorons. As I demonstrate, through expanding their associative relationships, antonymous lexemes reveal a potential for expressing contrastive semantics in poetic texts.

Keywords: antonym-synonym paradigms; individual author's metaphors; oxymoron syntagms; positive and negative evaluation; poetic language; emotive oppositions

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