

FAZEKAS FRUZSINA

Angol nyelv és kultúra-orosz nyelv és kultúra tanára
Osztatlan, 7. félév
Debreceni Egyetem
Bölcsészettudományi Kar

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“THE REAL ENEMY”: MAGICAL REALISM AND THE SCIAL EFFECTS OF NARCOS

Kulcsszavak: drogkereskedelem, Kolumbia, Narcos, mágikus realizmus, trauma konzumerizmus

Much of the second half of the 20th century in the United States was defined by the War on Drugs both domestically and internationally. Works like Scarface (1983) or Our Lady of the Assassins (1994) tackle the issue, however, certain pieces of media aim to explore the perceived root of the problem: Latin America. One such series is Narcos (2015-2017), one of the most successful Netflix series. The aim of this essay is to highlight the misrepresentation and misunderstanding of Colombia and Latin America in Narcos and its related series, Narcos: Mexico and Griselda, focusing on the concept of 'trauma economy' and the misuse of the notion of 'magical realism'. In this paper, I argue that Narcos and its related series promote the US American point of view of Latin America, minimizing the devastating consequences of one of the most traumatic periods of Latin American, specifically Colombian history and using it as a source of entertainment for non-Latin American audiences.