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PONOĆNO SUNCE · MIDNIGHT SUN
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Translation of the Poem

The poem was written by the Serbian poet Vasko Popa (1922-1991). The translation reads as follows:

Iz golemog crnog jajeta
Izleglo nam se neko sunce

Out of a big black egg
A sun hatched to us

Sijalo je na rebrima
Otvorilo je nebo širom
U grudima našim sirotim

It shone on the ribs
It opened the sky widely
In our poor chest

Zahodilo nije uopšte
Ali ni ishodilo nije

It never set down
But it didn't rise either

Pozlatilo je u nama sve
Ozelenelo nije ništa
Okolo nas oko toga zlata

It gilded everything within us
It greened nothing around us
Around that gold

U nadgrobni nam se kamen
Na živom srcu pretvorilo

It turned into a tombstone
At our live hearts

Serbian Pronunciation Guide

The pronunciation of the Serbian language is fairly simple. With a few exceptions, every letter is always pronounced the same way, no matter what precedes or follows:

A	[a]	as a in car
B	[b]	as b in business
C	[ts]	always as ts in nuts ; never as <i>c</i> in <i>car</i>
Č	[tʃ]	as ch in church
Ć	[tɕ]	as ch in church , but softer; if in doubt, you may well pronounce it as the letter above
D	[d]	as d in dig
DŽ	[dʒ]	as J in John
Đ or DJ	[dʒ]	as J in John , but softer; if in doubt, you may well pronounce it as the letter above
E	[ɛ]	as e in let
F	[f]	as f in feel
G	[g]	always as g in game
H	[x]	as h in help
I	[i]	as ea in east
J	[j]	as y in year ; never as <i>J</i> in <i>John</i>
K	[k]	as k in kettle
L	[l]	as l in love
LJ	[ʎ]	as lli in million , or as gl in Italian article gli
M	[m]	as m in mouse
N	[n]	as n in nephew
NJ	[ɲ]	as ni in onion , or as gn in Italian bagno
O	[ɔ]	as au in autumn
P	[p]	as p in put
R	[r]	as r in rice ; when between consonants (eg prvo , srce , meaning <i>first</i> and <i>heart</i>), it should be sung as schwa [ə] with [r] at the end of the syllable, like one would sing <i>first</i> or <i>bird</i> in English, ie, pər-ʋə , sər-tɕə
S	[s]	always as s in sound ; never as <i>s</i> in <i>busy</i>
Š	[ʃ]	as sh in shoe
T	[t]	as t in time
U	[u]	as oo in cool
V	[v]	as v in verb
Z	[z]	as z in zealous
Ž	[ʒ]	as s in pleasure