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JEZERO · THE LAKE
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JEZERO · THE LAKE

Translation of the Poem

The poem was written by the Serbian poet Duška Kisin (born 1966). The translation reads as follows:

Zagledana u jezero,
Nisam primetila
Da vreme
Prolazi.
Zagledana u jezero,
Nisam primetila
Da su svi
Otišli.
Zagledana u jezero,
Nisam primetila
Da sam
Zaspala.
Zagledana u jezero.

Gazing at the lake,
I haven't noticed
The time's been
Passing.
Gazing at the lake,
I haven't noticed
Everyone has
Gone.
Gazing at the lake,
I haven't noticed
I've fallen
Asleep.
Gazing at the lake.

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