

**PHANTASTISCHE GESTALTEN DES WASSERTALES UND IHRE SYMBOLIK**

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***Abstract:** The stories about the "Wassertal" in the northern Romanian Forest Carpathians have not only fascinated the inhabitants of the region, but also famous writers who have always tried to collect the stories and tales from the "Wassertal". The most famous writer of this area, who made this project his goal in life, is the German-speaking ethnologist, theologian and writer, Anton-Joseph Ilk. His book *Die mythische Welt des Wassertales* includes a remarkable collection of legends and stories from the region, presented in their orally transmitted stories. The main themes of the stories naturally include customs and traditions, whereby certain values, principles and charity were passed on not only to the children and grandchildren.*

***Keywords:** Wassertal, narrative world, phantastic creatures, tales, stories*