

## **Abstract:**

This paper focuses its attention on particular instances of autofiction, a somewhat obscure literary concept, that were identified within the novel written by Mario Puzo, *The Fortunate Pilgrim*. The author's real-life stories and experiences that were morphed into fictionalized versions within his novel are pointed out in clear comparisons and also supported with significant testimonies or quotations. The Italian-American author employs autofiction within his literary works in order to alleviate the profound wounds caused by worldwide historical crises or phenomena, such as the American Dream. Not only global catastrophes, but also personal ones are to be dismantled later on through concise analysis and comparison with the authentic life of the author and passages from the text.

**Key words:** Autofiction, immigrant experience, identity, Italian-American experience, American Dream, memories.