Summary: This paper analyzes the intertextual relationship between the writers Rubem Fonseca and Quim Monzó, taking as a starting point a reference to a collection of short stories by the Brazilian author found in the novel Benzina. It is shown that some thematic and stylistic features commonly attributed to the fact that Monzó is afflicted with Tourette Syndrome are, in fact, features shared with Fonseca and with a number of literary traditions and conventions. Therefore, and without denying the influence of pathologies in the act of creation, the role of textual and philological analysis is vindicated at the time of providing causal explanations concerning specific attributes present in a writer's work.

Keywords: intertextuality, literary influences, pathologies, creation, Quim Monzó, Rubem Fonseca