

THE THEME OF LIFE AND DEATH IN J. K. ROWLING'S BOOKS ABOUT 'HARRY POTTER'

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ABSTRACT

This article is devoted to study one of the modern fantasy writers in UK: J. K. Rowling's life – care and her “Harry Potter” series, which has been studied mostly through the prism of Good and Evil. The series is identified as fan-fiction mostly phenomenon of XX and XXI centuries, but we decided to make up the analysis basing it on the concept of Life and Death, which in our opinion, the most appropriate for the depiction of main ideas in all seven books, and to identify the last book “Deathly Hallows” in which these two notions become indivisible.

Keywords: Fantasy genre, surreal fantasy, witchcraft and magic, and the notion of Life and Death.

INTRODUCTION

The position of English language as the leading means of international communication is more and more intensified by intercultural integration and shows real tangible ground for improving and eliminating of defects in the process of creating effective methods of teaching English.

In this sense, we have to mention that decree of the First President of Uzbekistan Islam Karimov on December 10, 2012 "On Measures for Further Improvement of Foreign languages", notes that in Uzbekistan in the frameworks of realization of law "On education" and the National Program of personal training established a comprehensive system of teaching foreign languages, aimed at upbringing of harmoniously developed, highly educated, modern thinking young generation, the further integration of the republic into the world community was established in the country. [1]

Today, in view of integration between Uzbek and English cultures, it is very important to pay attention to modern tendencies in both literatures. The reason for that is a search for the appropriate perception of those pieces which are useful for us and our generation. Literature, being the major element of morality has definite forces which helps and protects people from mistakes, unbelief and illiteracy.

J. K. Rowling's “Harry Potter” books have been studied well in most works by a number of scholars and researchers such as “Categorical concepts of "Good" and "Evil" in children's fantasy” (“Категориальные концепты "Добро" и "Зло" в детской фэнтези”) by P. T. Vladimirovna, “Dynamics of the magical world of JK Rowling” (“Динамика волшебного мира Дж. К. Роулинг”) by L. E. Nikolaevna, “Fanfiction: literary phenomenon of the end of the XX - beginning of the XXI century: creativity of the fans JK Rowling” (“Фанфикшн: литературный феномен конца XX - начала XXI века :творчество поклонников Дж. К. Ролинг”) by P. K. Andreevna, "Power and Evil in J. K. Rowling's Harry Potter novels" by Birgit Baltzar, “Harry Potter: A comparison of the characters, themes, setting and plot with the

Arthurian legend” by Diane L. Engbretson, “The Wizarding Words of J. K. Rowling: Literary Merit in the Harry Potter Series” by Brenna Sherrill” and etc. Therefore we decided to reveal the theme of Life and Death in 'Harry Potter' cycle and the culmination of which comes in the last book of this cycle 'Deathly Hallows.' We claim that the theme of “Life and Death” is main point in all series of 'Harry Potter' novel, particularly, in the last book 'Deathly Hallows.'

MATERIALS AND METHODS

During the research general scientific methods were used. The combination of philosophical, biographical, historical approaches was applied for the analysis of main heroes of Harry Potter novel and the notion of “Life and Death” in the last book 'Deathly Hallows'. As the research materials, there were used J. K. Rowling’s books about ‘Harry Potter’: “Philosopher’s Stone”, “Chamber of secrets,” “Prisoner of Azkaban,” “Goblet of Fire,” “Order of the Phoenixes.” “Half-blood Prince” and particularly, “Deathly Hallows”

DISCUSSION AND RESULTS

Fantasy is written in the language of dreams. It is alive as long as dreams are alive

George RR Martin

The Latin word phantasticus means ‘to make visible’; the broadest definitions speak of fantasy as an image-making faculty or a mental image. In terms of literature, fantasy is described as “imaginative fiction dependent for effect on strangeness of setting (such as other worlds or times) and characters (such as supernatural beings).” [3]

“There’s always room for a story that can transport people to another place.”

J.K.Rowling

The author of the fantasy series “Harry Potter”, Joanne Rowling was born on 31st July 1965 at Yate General Hospital just outside Bristol, and grew up in Gloucestershire in England and in Chepstow, Gwent, in south-east Wales.

A sign reading "Platform 9¾" with half of a luggage trolley installed beneath, at the interior of King's Cross railway station bound for Arbroath in 1964, where Rowling’s parents first met each other and married on 14 March 1965. After knowing that, Rowling used King's Cross Station as a gateway into the Wizarding World, it has since become a popular touristic spot. [2] A simple train delay in 1990 was partially responsible for the creation of one of the most successful book series in modern English that is J. K. Rowling’s “Harry Potter” books. J K Rowling created several works on the various themes, and each work has its own idea of being written. She wrote for children and adults. Her most and masterpiece works are fantastic. Author J. K. Rowling does something amazing with her Harry Potter series: writing a fantasy novel that reads like a gripping suspense-filled mystery.

'You know my goal to conquer death.'

“Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire” [4]

The notion of Life and Death looks like the earth turns and the sun inexorably rises and sets, and one day, for each of us, the sun will go down for the last, last time. Therefore, the Life and death are a continuous cycle. Death is no less a subject of interest when life itself is a waking dream; a dream which none of us would wish to break soon. This dream is pleasant to us but ‘what dreams we may have when we have shuffled off this mortal coil’ is the cardinal problem. The best of Rowling’s ideas and opinions about life and death seem to sum up in the seventh and final novel when Dumbledore shares with Harry his philosophy of life and death in the chapter King’s Cross. The truth dawns upon Harry as well as the reader that death cannot be a bigger concern when life itself has many secrets to unfold before us and in this spirit

Voldemort's desire for immortality seems futile. J. K. Rowling begins her story how she ends it, but not in a simple circle where nothing is gained or loss, but as a spiral, ever progressing. Death looms over the series from the beginning through to the end. From the deaths of Harry's parents, which brings him into the home, if not the bosom, of the Dursley family, to the deaths of Cedric, Sirius, Albus, Remus and Tonks, Fred, Collin, and many others, the fear and often untimely ending of everything human is explored from various perspectives. The taking of life is the most evil spell a wizard can cast, which leaves a permanent blight upon his own soul. Whereas the acceptance of one's own death is perhaps presented as the noblest, even if the most shocking -- Dumbledore's fore-planned sacrifice. However, there is one thing to mention that the Death always follows after the Life, and we can see that Lord Voldemort wants to master the Death with the help of Deathly Hallows and fights for the Life - immortality as well Harry, but as Dumbledore said if who can face to the Death and meets him as an old friend (like the third brother in the Three Brother's Tale and Harry), he may choose good Life for himself. This is Dumbledore's philosophy between Life and Death.

CONCLUSION

The theme of Life and Death in J. K. Rowling's books about Harry Potter' is the main philosophical topic that raised in through over 7 novels. Actually, the novel series is mostly analyzed through the prism of 'Good' and 'Evil' notions like black and white sides of the big fight between Voldemort and Harry Potter, which crosses the whole cycle, but after gathering all theoretical materials necessary for the investigation and having our own opinion about each characters in the series we decided that it would be better to reveal the theme of '**Life**' and '**Death**' as the best demonstration of contrasting ideas in the cycle.

The representation of **Life and Death** were studied in the part where it reaches the peak in the last book "Deathly Hallows". The composition of this book leases on the story inside of the story. Death was a main story in it. Death's behavior in the novel was the same. Through over the novel it punishes each of the hero and awards them for their actions. So, Life for which each of the characters were fighting as a rule in any case brought them to Death, and he in his turn meets them as friends or as enemies, depending on what they were doing.

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