



JOHN STEINBEK'S "THE WINTER OF OUR DISCONTENT": INTERPRETATION OF THE CHARACTER AND THE IMAGE OF THE WRITER

Mukhtorova Maftuna Ilhomovna

A lecturer of the department of
Translation Studies and Language Education
at Bukhara State University, Uzbekistan

Article history:		Abstract:
Received:	November 28 th 2020	The given article deals with the essential theoretical principles of interpreting the literary character and writer's image in John Steinbek's work. It reveals the emotional features of a literary text in terms of author's attitude to natural and social beings, his ability to use various lexical units, artistic images, visual means.
Accepted:	December 7 th 2020	
Published:	December 29 th 2020	
Keywords: Character, image, ideological, figurative means, dominant society, monologue, dialogue, protagonist.		

1. INTRODUCTION

Fiction plays an important role in shaping the moral, ideological and scientific worldview of the younger generation. The figurative means of a work of art, which combines the power of ideological, moral, and subtle influence in the formation of a new person in a work of art, its educational value and impact are complete only if the specific features are clear to the reader. appears.

Visual and emotional are the main features of a literary text. Because the writer has a free attitude to natural and social beings, he uses various lexical units, artistic images, visual means and subtleties of literary language in order to reveal the essence of this being.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

John Steinbeck's literary career has been reflected on by many American reviewers. Rejoy Garcia describes his reassessment of the work when asked to update his original Study Guide to *Winter*: "The book I then so impetuously criticized as somewhat thin, now strikes me as a deeply penetrating study of the American condition. I did not realize, at the time, that we had a condition," and he attributes this change of heart to "our own enriched experience" [4, 16].

According to professor of literature and Steinbeck scholar Stephen K. George, " ... I would contend that, given its multi-layered complexity, intriguing artistry, and clear moral purpose, *The Winter of Our Discontent* ranks in the upper echelon of Steinbeck's fiction, alongside *Of Mice and Men*, *Cannery Row*, *East of Eden*, and, of course, *The Grapes of Wrath*". *Winter* was mostly analysed and reviewed by Randall D. Miller (2005), Joseph Allegretti (2005), Barbara A. Heavilin (2004), Lesleigh Patton (2002), Joseph R. McElrath, Jesse S. Crisler, and Susan Shillinglaw (1996), Richard C. Bedford (1972), and Jarmila Dvorak (1962) who concentrated on the moral issues of his work.

3. MAIN PART

As the writer chooses characters, characters, and elements of life for his work, his work is always goal-oriented. For this reason, the writer assigns a certain meaning to each image and describes it with individual qualities, which is the meaning, the purposeful expression, the characterization. Every lexical and stylistic element plays a very important role in this.

In every society, of course, there are vices that lead to spiritual decay. In *The Winter of Our Discontent*, Steinbeck also describes the dominant society in America in the 1960s and the aspects of it that make a person mentally handicapped, with the pure and honest protagonist Iten falling victim to that society. The author therefore begins the novel with the following epigraph. Indeed, there were a number of people in society who resembled the fate of the protagonist, and even today there are many of them. "Readers seeking to identify the fictional people and places described here would do better to inspect their own communities and search their own hearts, for this book is about a large part of America today".

The plot takes place in a small town in New England. The protagonist is a descendant of the founders of this town, the economic situation is not bad, in short, an average American. In those years, Steinbeck was concerned about changes in the country's traditions and way of life. One of the areas of concern was the lack of a purpose in society. In his novel, he reveals how the way of life in the country affects an ordinary honest person. Such a way of life is a clear indication of treachery and crime for the sake of wealth. Here is his conversation with his wife, because there were members of society who valued money in his family: his wife and son. They think completely against Iten's

worldview and try to convince him that he is also wrong. Because in the society that surrounds them, there are many people who have such an opinion.

The protagonist Iten is a very pure-hearted person, who likes to joke and enjoys life. Every day is the same, but he tries to enjoy every day, even if he is not indifferent to the nature around him - the animals. He talks to them, which shows his extraordinary nature. "Do you know what spermaceti is?" Red Baker gave a whining sigh. "I see you don't Read" Moby-Dick, dog. That's my advice to you ". Or in this passage we see a conversation with a bird, as if talking to a loved one, a heartfelt conversation. "Halfway down the first block a delinquent gang of English sparrows were fighting on the new-coming lawn of the Elgar house, not playing but rolling and picking and eye-gouging with such ferocity and so noisily that they didn't see Ethan approach. He stopped to watch the battle.

"Birds in their little nests agree," he said. "So why can't we? Now there's a bunch of horse crap for you. You kids can't get along even on a pretty morning. And you're the bastards of Saint Francis was nice to. Screw! " He ran at them, kicking, and the sparrows rose with a whispered roar of wings, complaining bitterly in door-squeak voices. "Let me tell you this,' Ethan said after them. At noon the sun will darken and a blackness will fall on the earth and you will be afraid".

In fact, through the protagonist's speech, the writer expresses his thoughts, because in this passage, "why can't people live in harmony, when the birds live in a small nest?" settings will ask questions.

We know that the work of art emphasizes the appearance or the inner world of the protagonist. Appearance is called a "portrait of depiction" and is not found in all works. It is in this novel that we find no trace of Iten's appearance. But Steinbeck reveals his inner world, the changes that gradually take place in him, sometimes through monologues, sometimes through dialogues. The first two parts of the novel are told by a third person, the third part from the third part to the end of the first part. The second part begins with the tenth part, two parts of which are in the language of the third person, the rest are spoken in the language of the first person. Speaking in the language of a third person brings the reader closer to the protagonist, because it is possible to witness changes in his thoughts, ideas, inner world.

At the beginning of the novel, the protagonist is an honest man who knows that life is not about property, but about family happiness. For him, every day is a reward and he spends it in a good mood. He gets along well not only with family members, but also with everyone around him, always joking.

Everyone's heart is important for Iten, he does not offend anyone, he does not want to hurt anyone. "Now whose feelings can I hurt, sugarfoot?" he said to his wife. "There ain't nobody nor nobody's feelings here. Just me and my unimum unimorum until – until I open that goddam front door. "

In the 1960s, Steinbeck was concerned about the changes that were taking place in American society. The protagonist Iten is also afraid of starvation for the wealth of people, his wife and children.

In another place we witness his honesty. When his son asks for help in writing an essay, he says that it will be mine, not yours. This proves his honesty. "Maybe you could help us with the essays." "Then they wouldn't be yours."

Two events in the novel – Margie's prophecy and the fact that the entrepreneur offered her a job – cause changes in it, because any polluted environment can suffocate a person, kill his virtues. For this he must be strong, but Iten does not have such power. "The structure of my change was feeling, pressures from without, Mary's wish, Allen's desires, Ellen's anger, Mr. Baker's help. Only at the last when the move is mounted and prepared does thought place a roof on the building and bring in words to explain and to justify. Suppose my humble and interminable clerkship was not virtue at all but a moral laziness? "

As the story unfolds, the protagonist begins to change his mind about money, but he does it all for his son and his wife. Because of the treatment he has received over the years, even though he is a fraud. He wants to prove it. The novel tells the story of his inner rebellion, in which the protagonist does it only once, and then goes back and forth.

As the events unfold, the protagonist begins an internal uprising, he is caught in a whirlpool of problems and can not fight them. In the protagonist there is an internal breakdown, irritation of the abdomen. "When a condition or a problem becomes too great, humans have the protection of not thinking about it. But it goes inward and minces up with a lot of other things already there and what comes out is discontent and uneasiness, guilt and a compulsion to get something – anything – before it is all gone.

War cannot change the honesty and humanity of the protagonist, but the society that surrounds him makes him mentally handicapped. Especially in order to meet the needs of his family and their material needs, the protagonist commits these heinous acts.

Steinbeck expresses his point of view through the protagonist. As this work is the author's last novel, the writer uses the protagonist to express his attitude to the time and society. The 1960 election, in particular, focused on the changes that were taking place in the United States.

At the end of the work, the protagonist expresses his remorse for the atrocities of life and his actions. She can't stand the fact that her son's essay, copied from someone else, has been exposed by his daughter. A child is precious to a person, and it is a disaster for him to take such a step in such a time of innocence. Iten can't stand this catastrophe and wants to leave this life. It is said that this life lasts until there is only one good person left in the world. When he commits suicide, the tumor left by Deborah's aunt saves him. He shines so brightly that the protagonist realizes that this tumor must be passed down from generation to generation by a worthy man. This is his daughter, Ellen.

At the beginning of the novel we would like to remind you to whom the author dedicated it. "To Beth, my sister, whose light burns clear." According to him, everyone has their own light. Depending on what kind of person he is, he shines bright or dim. According to Steinbeck, his sister's light is bright, so the novel is dedicated to her. By the way, the work is dedicated to good people. At the end of the play, the protagonist realizes that his light is gone, but returns home, saying that another worthy light must shine. So he will continue to do good again.

4. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, even if the events of the novel cover the period from April to July - a short time, it is enough for a person's spiritual decline. In this way, the author explains how low a person can be in his life, and for this he should try to be honest. Any spiritual decline will affect the next generation, so no material thing can be superior to children.

REFERENCES:

1. Allegretti, Joseph. "Teaching Business Ethics with *The Winter of Our Discontent*. 2005. 57-72. JSTOR.
2. Bedford, Richard C. "The Genesis and Consolation of *Our Discontent*." *Criticism*. 14.3 (Summer 1972): 277-294. JSTOR. Web. 17 Sept. 2012.
3. Dvorak, Jarmila. "The *Winter of Our Discontent* by John Steinbeck." *Books Abroad*. 80-81. JSTOR.
4. Garcia, Reloy (1979), *A Study Guide to Steinbeck (Part II)*, Metuchen: Scarecrow, p. 4
5. Kasimova, N. F. (2020). The pragmatic aspects of the English interrogatives expressing politeness. *ISJ Theoretical & Applied Science*, 06 (86), 464-468.
6. Kouta Ashraf, Engy Saleh. FROM ALIENATION TO CONNECTEDNESS: A POSTMODERN ECOCRITICAL READING OF JOHN STEINBECK'S *THE WINTER OF OUR DISCONTENT*. *European Scientific Journal*, vol.9, No.11. – Egypt, 2013.
7. Косимова Нафиса Фарходовна К исследованию асимметрии лингвистического знака // *International scientific review*. 2016. №14 (24).
8. Касымова, Н. Ф. (2011). Асимметрия при переводе интеррогативов с вопросительным словом what (на материале английского, русского и узбекского языков). *Вестник Челябинского государственного университета*, (11), 70-73.
9. Susan F., Susan Shillinglaw, and Wesley N. Tiffney, Jr., eds. *Steinbeck and the Environment: Interdisciplinary Approaches*. Tuscaloosa and London: The University of Alabama Press, 1997.