

THEORETICAL PROBLEMS RELATED TO FANTASY GENRE

Saidova Nozima Akhrorovna

Doctorate student at UzSWLU

Annotation: *Fantasy fiction plays an important role in the development of children's literature of the 20th century. The study of children's fantasy works is considered one of the promising scientific directions due to the popularity of this genre among teenagers, as well as its connection with other types of art (computer games, cinematography). Despite its popularity, the genre's nature, its features and relationship with other literary genres are not studied thoroughly yet. This article is devoted to the revelation of the problems related with fantasy and its genre features.*

Key words: *fantasy, fictitious, secondary world, content and form, escapism.*

In modern literary studies, there are three different approaches to fantasy literature: 1) fantasy as a type of science fiction; 2) fantasy as a literary direction; 3) fantasy as an independent genre with its own content and form features.

Proponents of definitions of fantasy as a literary direction are V.S. Tolkachyova [1] and A.N. Osipov [2, 280]. V.S. Tolkachyova denies that there are specific genre symbols in fantasy, but describes the existence of content elements and doubts the existence of fantasy as a separate genre system. For scientists, fantasy is a product of the development of fantastic literature, an idea that is part of it. However, considering the fact that fantasy has historical roots in fairy tales, it should be noted that fantasy actually began to develop much earlier than fiction and reached its maturity in the 20th century.

Russian scientists M. Galina and E. Kovtun [3, 126] consider fantasy an independent genre. G. Pospelov gives the following definition: "Genre is such a phenomenon that is repeated in different periods, contributes to the development of literature of different nations and different directions of the same historical period. It is important to find the repetitive aspect of the genre." [4, 126] Based on this definition, we can call fantasy as a genre, because the characteristics of fantasy were first observed in myth, and in folk tales, and later in literary fairy tales. We agree with the opinion of scientists such as E. Kovtun, A. Gusarova [5, 152-158], E. Afanaseva [6, 86-93] that fantasy is an independent genre, and we distinguish the following formal and substantive features of it: 1) depiction of an unreal fantasy world; 2) the system of images consists of mythological and folklore heroes; 3) the richness of the plot (quest, wandering, war, etc.); 4) the main factor creating the plot is the struggle between good and evil; 5) creation of ancient and medieval time and space; 6) perform the function of admonition like a fairy tale; 7) the hero's character, thoughts, emotional experiences are the main genre

characters, and magic plays an important role in their full expression; 8) complete creative freedom of the author: he can change the plot in the most unexpected way, because the possibilities are unlimited in the world of magical fantasy; 9) the genre of modern fantasy in its "pure" form, say, heroic or classical fantasy, is almost impossible to find. The most successful examples combine the features of political, historical and comic fantasy, creating "hybrid" types; 10) modern mentality in medieval conditions. Whether a citizen of our world moves in a parallel reality or another time period, he does not accept the way of thinking of the middle ages, obeying the will of the author, his mind thinks like a modern person; 11) "escapism" means escaping from real life. Maybe it's because we are tired of the worries and problems of ordinary life that we pick up a fantasy book and dive into the imaginary world, where we find something that we will never find in real life.

Fantasy refers to works in which the events of the plot take place in an fictitious secondary world, the main characters use magic, the plot of the work is based on myths and folk tales, refer to mythological and folkloric images, and are read to escape from reality.

Although science fiction and fantasy seem similar, they differ in many ways, primarily with the object of the image. Fantasy "creates worlds that do not exist anywhere <<...>> while science fiction describes an unexplored future cosmos." If fantasy has some sort of divine, supernatural powers, science fiction doesn't. Fantasy can treat the laws of nature as it pleases, even breaking those rules is considered natural. In addition to the image of the secondary world, the types of these works of art also differ in the characters and types of conflict. If the main characters of fantasy are robots, scientists, aliens (for example, the novels of G. Wales, R. Bradbury, A. Azimov), then in fantasy there are mythological and folk characters such as gnomes, elves, monsters, dragons, angels. According to T. Chernysheva, "the most important difference between fantasy and science fiction is that science fiction describes realities that exist and can be explained, while fantasy describes impossible things." [7, 189] We can say that fantasy is a large-scale fairy tale, because the fairy tale is written mainly for children and has an educational value. A certain number of fantasy works, written mainly in the novel genre, are aimed at a young audience and usually always depict the struggle between good and evil. Unlike adult fantasy, these works depict children's themes, such as first love, relationships with parents. These works have a significant impact on the mental, psychological and emotional development of the child's personality.

In conclusion, fantasy works are the ones in which plot events take place in an imagery secondary world, characters use elements of magic, and are read to escape reality. We can call it an independent genre because it has formal and substantive features such as a chain of fantasy plots, the division of characters into positive and negative ones, the presence of magic in the work, it is mainly written in the novel genre, and the use of mythological or folklore images. Despite

its similarities with science fiction and fairy tales, fantasy differs from them in some of its own ways. Science fiction is based on technological innovations, scientific hypotheses, while fantasy describes imaginary, non-existent worlds. A fairy tale is mainly written for children and has an educational character, while fantasy is not always written for a young audience.

USED LITERATURE

1. Толкачёва В. С. Фэнтези: жанр или литературное направление? // Известия ВГПУ. 2010. №10. URL: <https://cyberleninka.ru/article/n/fentezi-zhanr-ili-literaturnoe-napravlenie> (дата обращения: 27.03.2023).
2. Осипов А.Н. Фэнтези // Он же. Фантастика от «А» до «Я» : краткий энцикл. справочник. М., 1999. с. 280.
3. Ковтун Е.Н. Поэтика необычайного: художественные миры фантастики, сказки, утопии, притчи и мифа (на материале европейской литературы первой половины XX века). — М., 1999. — с.126.
4. Поспелов Г.Н. Проблемы исторического развития литературы. — М., 1972. — с. 126.
5. Гусарова А.Д. Формула фэнтези (Принцип героя). А.Д. Гусарова. Проблемы детской литературы и фольклор: Сб. науч.тр. — Петрозаводск, 2004. — с. 152-158;
6. Афанасьева, Е. Жанр фэнтези: проблема классификации / Е. Афанасьева // Фантастика и технологии (памяти Станислава Лема): сб. материалов Международной научной конференции 29-31 марта 2007. — г.Самара, 2009. — с. 86-93.
7. Чернышева Т.А. Природа фантастики. —Издательство Иркутского университета, 1985. —с. 189.