

O'ZBEKISTON RESPUBLIKASI
OLIIY TA'LIM, FAN VA INNOVATSIYALAR VAZIRLIGI

FARG'ONA DAVLAT UNIVERSITETI

**FarDU.
ILMIY
XABARLAR**

1995-yildan nashr etiladi
Yilda 6 marta chiqadi

2-2024

**НАУЧНЫЙ
ВЕСТНИК.
ФерГУ**

Издаётся с 1995 года
Выходит 6 раз в год

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UO'K: 821.111'06.09-31

**POSTMODERN ADABIYOTI SIRLARINI ANGLASH: MYURIEL SPARKNING SO'Z
SAN'ATI****COMPREHENDING THE MYSTERIES OF POSTMODERN LITERATURE: THE ART OF
THE WORD BY MURIEL SPARK****ПОСТИЖЕНИЕ ТАЙН ПОСТМОДЕРНИСТСКОЙ ЛИТЕРАТУРЫ: ИСКУССТВО
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Annotatsiya

Maqolada Myuriel Sparkning "Miss Jan Brodining tonggi" va "Haydovchi o'rindig'i" kabi asarlarida postmodern elementlaridan qanday foydalanganligi o'rganilgan. Spark eksperimental tuzilmalar, intertekstuallik va metafantastika kabi postmodern elementlardan foydalangan holda, an'anaviy hikoya qilish va voqelikni idrok etishni shubha ostiga qo'yadi, shu orqali zamonaviy adabiyotga salmoqli hissa qo'shadi.

Аннотация

В статье исследуется, как Мюриэль Спарк использовала постмодернистские элементы в таких произведениях, как "Утро Мисс Джин Бродуи" и "Место водителя". Используя постмодернистские элементы, такие как экспериментальные структуры, интертекстуальность и метафизика, Спарк ставит под сомнение традиционное повествование и восприятие реальности, тем самым внося значительный вклад в современную литературу.

Abstract

The article explores how Muriel SPARK used postmodern elements in such works as "The Morning of Miss Jean Brody" and "the Driver's Seat". Using postmodern elements such as experimental structures, intertextuality and metaphysics, SPARK challenges traditional narrative and perception of reality, thereby making a significant contribution to modern literature.

Kalit so'zlar: Myuriel Spark, postmodernizm, ifoda, asarlar, adabiyot, hikoya tuzilmalari, intertekstuallik, meta-proza.

Ключевые слова: Мюриэль Спарк, постмодернизм, экспрессия, произведения, литература, повествовательные структуры, интертекстуальность, мета проза.

Key words: Muriel Spark, postmodernism, expression, works, literature, narrative structures, intertextuality, metafiction

INTRODUCTION

Muriel Spark, a prominent British novelist and playwright, is widely regarded as an influential figure in the postmodern literary movement. Her works characterized by their experimentation with narrative structures, intertextuality, and metafictional elements, exemplify the expression of postmodern ideas. This article explores the ways in which Spark's literary creations embody and reflect the key tenets of postmodernism. Muriel Spark effectively applied postmodern elements and techniques in her creative writing. Spark's novels often exhibit a fragmented narrative style, where multiple perspectives, non-linear timelines, and disrupted plotlines challenge traditional notions of storytelling. In works like *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* [1] she employs metafictional techniques drawing attention to the constructed nature of narrative itself.

Postmodernism is characterized by a self-conscious awareness of its own artifice. Spark's writings frequently employ irony and parody to satirize social conventions, cultural norms, and literary traditions. Her witty and sardonic prose subverts established norms, exposing the absurdities and contradictions of contemporary society. Spark's works are replete with intertextual references and allusions to other literary works, historical events, and popular culture. By weaving

these references into her narratives, she invites readers to engage in a complex web of interconnected meanings and interpretations, highlighting the interplay between past and present, high and low culture.

LITERATURE ANALYSIS AND METHODOLOGY

Postmodern literature often challenges the notion of objective truth and embraces subjective experiences. Spark frequently employs unreliable narrators who distort or manipulate the narrative, raising questions about the nature of truth and the reliability of perception. In novels like "The Driver's Seat" [2], she merges into the intricate functions of the human mind and explores the subjective nature of reality. Spark's works often contain meta-commentary on the act of writing itself. Through self-reflexive moments, she draws attention to the artificiality of fiction and the role of the author as a creator. This self-awareness underscores the postmodern notion of the text as a construct, encouraging readers to question the boundaries between fiction and reality. Postmodern literature often embraces ambiguity and open endings, leaving the interpretation of the narrative up to the reader. Spark's novels frequently conclude with unresolved questions and open-ended scenarios, encouraging readers to engage with the text actively. Postmodernism often challenges the stability of language and meaning, and Spark's work embraces this aspect as well.

In "The Abbess of Crewe" [3], Spark parodies the Watergate scandal, transforming it into a satirical tale set in a nunnery. Through this recontextualization, she exposes the arbitrariness of language and the power dynamics inherent in political and religious institutions. These postmodern themes in Muriel Spark's novels contribute to the complexity and richness of her storytelling. Her innovative narrative techniques and thought-provoking explorations of reality, language, and human experience make her a significant figure in postmodern literature.

Below, some works of Muriel Spark are examined to illustrate postmodern elements and techniques used in her creative narration.

"The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie" (1961) is often regarded as Spark's masterpiece and showcases several postmodern elements. It employs fragmented narrative structures, non-linear storytelling, and a non-chronological timeline. The novel challenges traditional notions of authority and presents multiple perspectives on the titular character.

In "The Driver's Seat" (1970), Spark dives into the complex functioning of the human mind and explores the subjectivity of reality. The narrative is fragmented, and the story unfolds through disjointed scenes and non-linear sequences. Spark uses unreliable narrators and employs meta-commentary to raise questions about perception, truth, and the nature of identity.

"Loitering with Intent" (1981) [4] is a metafictional novel that self-reflexively explores the act of writing and the role of the author. The protagonist, Fleur Talbot, is an aspiring writer who becomes entangled in a world of fictional characters and literary games. Spark employs irony and parody to satirize the literary world.

In "A Far Cry from Kensington" (1988) [5], Spark combines elements of mystery, satire, and postmodern techniques. The narrative voice is self-aware and self-reflexive, providing meta-commentary on the writing process. Spark employs irony, wit, and a fragmented narrative style to explore themes of identity, power dynamics, and the complexities of human relationships.

"The Abbess of Crewe" (1974) [3] is a satirical take on the Watergate scandal, where Spark adapts the events of the political scandal to a fictional setting in a convent. The novel uses parody and irony to critique political corruption and power dynamics. Spark's blending of real-life events with fictional elements exemplifies postmodern storytelling techniques.

The novel "Aiding and Abetting" [6] is rich for various postmodern techniques and elements. Some of them are analyzed as following:

"Aiding and Abetting" employs metafictional techniques, blurring the boundaries between the fictional world and the act of writing itself. Spark plays with the reader's expectations, making self-referential comments and questioning the nature of storytelling and the role of the author. The novel utilizes a fragmented narrative structure, presenting multiple perspectives and non-linear timelines. Spark's use of different narrative voices and perspectives adds complexity to the story, reflecting the postmodern idea that truth is subjective and reality is multifaceted. Spark incorporates intertextual references and allusions to other works of literature, historical events, and

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popular culture. These references create a rich tapestry of interconnected meanings and invite readers to engage in a dialogue with various texts and contexts.

In "Aiding and Abetting" Spark often challenges the reader's perception of what is real. The novel explores themes of identity, deception, and the constructed nature of personal narratives, reflecting the postmodern skepticism towards fixed notions of truth and authenticity.

Spark's characteristic wit and irony are prevalent throughout the novel. She satirizes societal norms, cultural conventions, and the human condition, exposing the absurdities and contradictions of contemporary society. This use of satire aligns with the postmodern skepticism towards grand narratives and the deconstruction of established systems.

Muriel Spark's short stories often reflect postmodern themes and techniques, similar to her novels. While her short stories may not be as extensively studied as her longer works, they contain elements of postmodernism, such as metafiction, irony, and narrative experimentation. Here are a few examples of her short stories and the postmodern themes they exhibit:

"The First Year of My Life" [7] The short story employs metafictional elements as it explores the life of a young boy from infancy to age one. The story is presented as if the infant is narrating his experiences, questioning the boundaries of narrative perspective and the reliability of storytelling.

"The Seraph and the Zambesi" [8] In this short story, Spark employs a fragmented narrative style, switching between the perspectives of different characters. The narrative structure is non-linear, reflecting the postmodern interest in challenging conventional storytelling techniques.

"The Black Madonna" [9] is a story filled with religious and historical allusions, highlighting the intertextual aspect of postmodernism. It raises questions about the blurring of boundaries between religious and secular, and the significance of historical references within the narrative.

"The Ormolu Clock" [10] explores themes of deception and ambiguity, common in postmodern literature. The narrative is built around a mysterious clock with hidden compartments, inviting readers to question the truth and authenticity of the characters and their motivations.

In "The Portobello Road" [11] Spark's ironic and satirical style is evident. The characters in the story, particularly the protagonist, exhibit ironic and humorous qualities, which challenge conventional norms and expectations.

RESULTS

Muriel Spark's novels analyzed above serve as the bright examples of the expression of postmodern ideas in her literary work. Through metafiction, fragmented narrative, intertextuality, and aligning reality into fiction, Spark challenges conventional storytelling techniques and invites readers to question the nature of truth, identity, and narrative construction. Her use of satire and irony adds depth and complexity to the exploration of postmodern themes. By incorporating these elements, Spark contributes to the ongoing discourse surrounding postmodern literature and its engagement with the complexities of human existence.

Muriel Spark's short stories, like her novels, often feature self-aware characters, unreliable narrators, and a willingness to experiment with narrative form and structure. They also frequently contain cultural and historical references, inviting readers to engage with intertextual connections. Her exploration of ambiguity, irony, and satire in her short stories contributes to the postmodern themes that permeate her work.

DISCUSSION

Across her body of work, Muriel Spark consistently demonstrates her adeptness at weaving postmodern elements like fragmentation, metafiction, irony, and self-reflexivity into her narratives. With each novel, Spark pushes the boundaries of traditional storytelling, prompting readers to reevaluate their understanding of truth, reality, and narrative structure. Spark's embrace of fragmentation is evident in her tendency to present narratives in non-linear or disjointed ways, challenging readers to piece together the story themselves. Additionally, her use of metafiction reveals truth between fiction and reality, often incorporating elements that comment on the act of storytelling itself. Irony plays a significant role in Spark's works, with the author frequently employing it to subvert expectations and highlight contradictions within her narratives. This technique adds layers of complexity to her storytelling, inviting readers to engage more deeply with the text. Use of self-reflexivity further emphasizes her awareness of the fictional nature of her

narratives, as characters often reflect on the act of writing or the role of the author within the story. Muriel Spark's combination of these postmodern elements not only sets her work apart but also challenges readers to reconsider the nature of storytelling and its relationship to truth and reality.

CONCLUSION

Muriel Spark's literary contributions demonstrate a rich expression of postmodern ideas. Her works challenge conventional narrative structures, employ irony and parody, interweave intertextuality and allusions, and explore the subjectivity of truth and the role of the author. By embracing these postmodern techniques, Spark's writings invite readers to engage with complex narratives and reflect on the constructed nature of reality and language. Her contribution to postmodern literature continues to inspire and influence contemporary writers, making her a significant figure in the literary landscape of the twentieth century.

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