



SPECIFIC FEATURES OF DETECTIVE FICTION

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Abstract:

The genre of detective novels, with its specific features and structures, occupies a special place in literature. This genre mainly aims to entertain the reader through stories built around mysterious events, murders or crimes. The poetics of detective novels is aimed at studying the aesthetic and artistic aspects of this genre.

Keywords: detective novels, drama, plot, crime, novel, poetics, authors, literary devices, foreshadowing, red herrings, cliffhangers, flashbacks, symbolism, conversation.

Introduction

The main plot of detective novels is usually built around a crime or mystery. The reader, during the work, tries to unravel the events together with the characters. The complexity of the plot and interesting twists will draw the reader into the story. Detective novels often have the following structures. The detective or the hero tries to solve the crime, in the process various evidences and suspicions arise. Usually, unexpected twists occur in the middle of the story, which surprises the reader. At the end of the play, the crime is solved and all questions are answered.

Materials and Methods

In detective novels, the characters usually consist of a detective, a criminal, and a victim. The detective is distinguished by his intelligence, observation and experience. And the criminal often has a complex and interesting character to confuse the reader. Victims play an important role in the development of events. Detective novels often explore themes such as justice, authenticity, and the complexity of human nature. Readers will have the opportunity to analyze the inner world, motives and decisions of people in the process of solving a crime. This introduces the reader not only to the events, but also to the psychology of the characters. The poetics of detective novels is often associated with certain stylistic devices and aesthetics. Authors, by using figurative language, metaphors and symbols in their works, try to involve the reader more deeply in the events. Creating an atmosphere, forming a mysterious and exciting environment is an integral part of detective novels. Detective novels encourage the reader to actively participate in the process of unraveling the events together with the detective, which increases the interest of the reader. The inclusion of the reader in the detective's thinking process makes the work interactive.[5]

Results and Discussions

Detective novels frequently use a variety of creative approaches to attract readers and create tension. Here are several literary devices that can be found in most detective fiction.



Foreshadowing is a device that creates anticipation by hinting to future events. For example, a seemingly insignificant detail may eventually prove critical to investigating the murder. For instance, in Arthur Conan Doyle's "The Hound of the Baskervilles," the gloomy description of the moorland and the mention of a mysterious hound early in the novel foreshadow the primary mystery and imminent disaster.

Red Herrings: These are deceptive clues intended to divert readers and characters' attention away from the genuine solution. They add depth to the story and keep the mystery interesting. For example, in "The Tiger in the Smoke," Allingham used various red herrings, such as the supposedly suspicious conduct of minor people, to divert readers and investigator Albert Campion's attention away from the true culprit.

Cliffhangers: Ending chapters or parts with unresolved, tense moments encourages people to continue reading. For example, in "The Mysterious Affair at Ravenwood," a chapter concludes with a startling revelation about a character's secret, heightening the suspense and leaving readers hungry to find out how this new information will affect the investigation.

Stream of Consciousness: This style shows the protagonist's thoughts and feelings in a more direct and fragmented manner, shedding light on their inner workings and motivations.

Conversation: Sharp, funny, or terse conversation can disclose character attributes, move the action forward, or supply important information. For example, in "The Goring of the Pig" (also known as "The Case of the Late Pig"), Campion's quick and witty dialogue with the other characters exposes vital clues and develops their personalities, making the interactions fascinating and informative.

Flashbacks: These disclose prior events that are relevant to the current mystery, which can often help to solve the puzzle. For example, in Tana French's novel "In the Woods," the protagonist's flashbacks to his upbringing are critical to understanding his psychological state and its connection to the current murder investigation.

Atmosphere: The location and ambiance are deliberately designed to heighten suspense and instill fear or unease. For example, in "The Tiger in the Smoke," Allingham creates a gloomy, frightening mood by providing extensive descriptions of London during the postwar period, heightening the sense of tension and unease.

Symbolism: Objects, colors, or settings can have symbolic connotations related to themes or character development. In Edgar Allan Poe's "The Murders in the Rue Morgue," the horrific and chaotic murder scene can be interpreted as a metaphor for the deeper, more chaotic aspects of human nature that the detective must uncover.

Detective novels often contain themes of restoring justice and punishing the criminal. These themes make detective novels interesting and exciting, and allow readers to think deeply and explore different human experiences.[3] Some detective novels also explore themes such as social issues, class differences, racism, or gender issues. The characters are often faced with self-awareness and their own internal struggles. This leads to their development and change.

Detective novels were popular in several periods, but their highest level of development and popularization was observed in the following periods. The emergence and development of detective



novels corresponds to the XIX century. Edgar Allan Poe created the genre of detective stories with Murders in the Rue Morgue (1841). Authors such as Agatha Christie and Arthur Conan Doyle were also popular during this period. In the early 1900s, detective novels became more popular. During this period, authors such as Dashiell Hammett and Raymond Chandler developed the "noir" genre, which created a new style and atmosphere for crime and detective stories. During the 1940s and 1950s, detective novels and crime stories were very popular, and many classics were created.[4]

Authors such as Agatha Christie, Raymond Chandler and Dashiell Hammett are widely known for their works. During the 1970s and 1980s, detective novels were enriched with new styles and genres. Postmodernism and psychological detective stories became popular. Authors such as P.D. James and Ruth Rendell focused on the study of social problems in their works. Detective novels have undergone new developments in the era of the internet and globalization. New authors, such as Jo Nesbø and Stieg Larsson, achieved international success with their works. Detective novels have also been adapted to film and television, further increasing their popularity. Detective novels are always changing, enriched with new styles and themes, which is why their popularity continues.[2]

Conclusion

The poetics of detective novels, with their complex plots, interesting characters and deep themes, occupy a special place in literature. This genre introduces the reader not only to events, but also to the complexity of human nature. Detective novels, with their aesthetic aspects and artistic styles, fascinate and attract readers.

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