



ARTHUR BURTON'S CHARACTER ANALYSIS IN THE GADFLY NOVEL

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Abstract

This article analyzes several aspects of Arthur Burton, the main character in the novel "The Gadfly" by Ethel Lilian Voynich, including intelligence and understanding, idealism and loyalty, originality and faith, courage and leadership, as well as internal conflict and tragedy. Arthur Burton's internal conflict, moral dilemmas, and commitment to his work make him a compelling and complex character.

Keywords: Intellectual, idealism, faith, loyalty, courage, leadership, bright character, tragedy, inner conflict.

Introduction

The rapid development of world science led to the integration of literary traditions, improvement of new genres and methods, increased the need to translate rare examples of literature created in different languages, which laid the foundation for the emergence of the science of translation studies. The novel *The Gadfly* was written by English author Ethel Lilian Voynich. Ethel Lilian Voynich was born in Ireland and raised in England due to family circumstances. He is known not only as a writer, but also as a musician and supporter of several revolutionary events. Ethel Lilian Voynich was brought up in a spiritual and intellectual environment, that is, she grew up surrounded by her father's colleagues and friends, which influenced her outlook and interests.

He first studied music in England. Voynich was also involved in political activities throughout his life. We can know Voynich as a supporter of Irish independence and a participant in several revolutionary movements in Europe. Voynich's political views and activism were influenced by his upbringing in an intellectually stimulating environment, communication with famous figures of the political and literary world.





Benjamin Ramm describes the work as follows: "Voynich's work is a thrilling novel of revolutionary zeal, religious devotion, clerical betrayal, and romance." [2]

Analysis of literature on the topic

Western literature scholars: Anna Lively, Benjamin Ramn, Prisna T.B, Natalie Fannatile, researched by Russian literary critics Yevgenia Taratuta, Mityagina S. S. and Uzbek literary critic Mirzakalom Islami. The author Ethel Lililan Voynich is part of the democratic heritage of English culture. Not only is "The Gadfly" a guide of multi-ethnic progressives, but his other works embody the spirit of protest against social injustice, the belief in the victory of truth and freedom, which makes him the successor of the best traditions of the great Englishman. began with the publication of his first novel, The Gadfly.

The novel tells the story of Arthur Burton during the Italian unification movement in the 19th century. This work was widely acclaimed and a great success for its critical and moving story, vivid characters, and also for its exploration of political and philosophical themes. The work was translated into many languages and became a bestseller in many countries. The novel was originally translated into Russian by Vera Volzhskaya and published in 1900. The translated work made the works of Ethel Lililan Voynich popular in Russia. Voynich also wrote novels and short stories, but none of them were as successful as The Gadfly. In the play, Arthur expresses his intention to make Italy a free country: "... I call to sacrifice my life for Italy, to save it from slavery and poverty, to drive out the Austrians and to build a free republic that knows no owner but God..." [3; p. 13]

Research Methodology

This book by Voynich is a story of resurrection against oppression and occupation. In general, the history of Italy is told in this work, that is, the resistance and cruel revolutions carried out by the Austrians are highlighted. The novel's central character, Arthur Burton, a seminary student, although English, takes part in some revolutionary activities in Italy. These revolutionary movements were mixed with a religious element. He had a very close relationship with his teacher, Montanelli, but did not know that Montanelli was his real father. He could share any problem with Montanelli. He considered Montanelli his general encyclopedia.

When he found out who his father was, he was disappointed and disappointed and disappeared for a long time. Years later, Arthur Burton's pen becomes a sharp salesman. The difficulties he experienced for 5 years caused him to change both mentally and emotionally. Arthur Burton changes his name to Felice Rivarez. Because





of his sharp pen, he earned the nickname "The Gadfly", meaning the strong critic. Political activists of that time offered Arthur to write a political satire. Arthur Burton's anti-religious sentiments are very strong and his language is very harsh, especially towards religion, especially towards his father Montanelli. After participating in the armed struggle, he is arrested. He cannot escape from prison and is finally killed.

Analysis and results

The Gadfly tells the story of Arthur Burton's membership in the Young Italy organization and the subsequent events in his life. Naturally, Arthur's membership in a political organization such as Young Italy and his ideas about liberating Italy put Montanelli, his priest father, in danger, and he repeatedly tries to dissuade the young teenager from this path. Montanelli believes that Arthur was blindly and unknowingly sworn to the organization. Basharti, Arthur answers these questions like this: "...He cannot make people swear..." [4; 20-b] These thoughts indicate that Arthur is determined, proud, and thinks about every work, both outwardly and inwardly, and then performs it.

Arthur Burton is a multifaceted character whose development is central to the story of Gadfly. We can divide the character of Arthur Burton into several aspects:

1. Intelligence and enthusiasm: Arthur Burton is described as very intelligent and intellectually curious. He is well-read and well-spoken, often participating in philosophical debates and discussions about the political situation in Italy. His passion for justice and freedom attracts him to the revolutionary movement.
2. Idealism and Loyalty: Arthur is idealistic from a young age and deeply committed to the cause of Italian freedom. He rejects the tyrannical rule of Austria and conforms to the revolutionary ideals of freedom, equality and independence. His devotion to his work prompts him to take risks and make sacrifices for the greater good.
3. Identity and Beliefs: Throughout the novel, Arthur wrestles with questions of identity and beliefs. As an Englishman raised in Italy, he struggles to reconcile his English heritage with his Italian upbringing. He also experiences a crisis of faith, questioning his beliefs amid the upheavals of the revolution.
4. Courage and Leadership: Arthur displays remarkable courage and leadership skills as he emerges as a key figure in the revolutionary movement. He faces danger fearlessly, inspires others with his passion and confidence, and sets an example on the battlefield and in political circles.
5. Inner Conflict and Tragedy: Despite his outward confidence and determination, Arthur experiences deep inner conflict and personal tragedy. He wrestles with guilt, grief, and remorse for the consequences of his actions and the sacrifices his





revolutionary cause demands. These internal struggles add depth to her character and add to the complexity of her journey.

Overall, Arthur Burton is a dynamic and compelling character whose intellectual curiosity, passionate idealism, moral integrity, and personal struggles make him an unforgettable and distinctive character in the novel. Arthur also suffers from unrequited love for Jim (real name Jennifer), a childhood friend of hers, another suitor, Giovanni Bolla, a member of Young Italy. Arthur is more ambiguous, and his confusion between religion and politics, love and jealousy leads him to bare his soul with dangerous openness in the confessional. Father Cardi betrays his secrets and various members of Young Italy are arrested. After Arthur is freed by Montanelli's help, his half-brother Canon reveals that Montanelli is Arthur's real father. It's an unpleasant discovery for Arthur, but at least it explains the affection. Distraught by this news and believing that Jim has betrayed his comrades, Arthur leaves Leghorn and heads for South America.

In the center of the story is Arthur Burton, the main character of the story. Orphaned at a young age and raised in an English monastery, Arthur has a brilliant mind and a rebellious spirit. As he grew older, his desire for freedom and truth led him to accept his revolutionary ideas and take an active part in the struggle for the unification of Italy and independence from the authoritarian Austrian rule. "The Gadfly" combines historical events and fictional stories to paint a vivid picture of the social and political struggles of the time. Voynich brilliantly explores the themes of love, sacrifice, patriotism, and spirituality, intertwined with the protagonist's inner conflicts and personal growth. Arthur Burton's journey is one of self-discovery and moral awakening fueled by his relentless search for truth. His quest for justice and commitment to the revolutionary cause make him an icon of resistance and a symbol of hope for the oppressed masses.

Conclusions and Suggestions

In conclusion, we witness the transformation of the main character, Arthur Burton, from a simple and idealistic young man into a complex and introspective character, struggling with the consequences of his actions and the ghosts of his past. "The Gadfly" is not only a political and philosophical novel, but also a deeply emotional and romantic story. Complicated love and friendship play an important role in the story, adding to the richness of the story. Arthur's relationship with his revolutionary comrades, including the enigmatic, loyal and tragic Gemma Warren, as well as his mentor and friend Montanelli, is portrayed with great depth and emotional intensity.





Voynich's writing style is engaging and engaging, and will hold readers' attention from the first page to the end.

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