

THE USAGE OF STYLISTIC DEVICES IN DEPICTING VIVID PICTURE OF LIFE IN “FAHRENHEIT 451” BY REY BRADBURY

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Abstract: This article is devoted to the analyses of depictions on life with stylistic devices in “Fahrenheit 451” by Ray Bradbury. In this work it is tried to analyse heros’ action, Guy Montag’s feelings toward his wife, Mildred, because it is essential in the novel to recognize his real life and emotions towards his spouse as this identification helps to discover his attitude and acts in the society.

Key words: Emotion, feeling, image, literature, hero, social problems, impression, personal development, portrayal.

American novelist Ray Bradbury is the author of the fantastic book “Fahrenheit 451”. When it was released in the U. S. in 1953, it quickly became a standard textbook all around the world. Intriguingly, this book, which is billed as a textbook, imagines a future American society in which books are forbidden and firemen are assigned to oversee their destruction.

The book tells the tale of Guy Montag, a fireman who, before beginning his duties, gets bored with burning books and censoring them. He eventually quits his employment because he considers knowledge preservation to be a morally right course of action. The novel's plot received praise and prizes for its originality, including the American Academy Award, the Prometheus Hall of Fame Award, and many others. In 1966 and 2018, the book was adapted into a movie with the same name. Burning was enjoyable, according to [1, 30]. “Fahrenheit 451” by Ray Bradbury, a dystopian novel, gives readers a vivid picture of what life might be like in a society that prioritized ignorance and rapid gratification over enthusiasm and intelligence.

Guy Montag, the main character, and his philosophical rebellion against a mindless, dishonest society that places a high value on productivity and the breeding of brainwashed, like-minded people are at the center of the narrative. Through the frequent use of symbols, allegories, metaphors, and allusions, Bradbury develops the story's message, which supports individual freedom and freethought. He does this by drawing inspiration from the post-World War II fears of McCarthyism and the censorship of the mind as well as from the growing prevalence of technologies in the home, such as television [5, 93]. “Fahrenheit 451” author Ray Bradbury is able to ascribe richer and more profound meaning to ostensibly everyday items and behaviours thanks to the constant use of symbolism in his work.

Fire represents both the good and the bad, which are prevalent in many of Bradbury's works. Fire is employed to burn the knowledge and concepts present in books at the opening of the book, enabling this mechanical destruction of cultural idea [1, 40].

Having to "ignite the fire rapidly" and "burn everything" to the ground while destroying works of literature like the "old woman's... fountain of books" at the beginning of Bradbury's novel, firefighters are the very embodiment of fire as a dangerous force [1, 40]. According to David Seed,

the "symbolism has been even more tightly institutionalized in the firemen's costumes and equipment." [7, 40].

In "Fahrenheit 451", it is stated that fire has a significant impact on society. After all, firemen's helmets are inscribed with the number "451," which represents the destructive power of fire and represents the degree at which books are said to spontaneously combust [1, 40]. It is unclear "how active the verb is" [7, 40] when Bradbury says that "it was a delight to burn," as he also calls into question what the genuine object of the verb "to burn" actually is. The ultimate purpose of "burn" is postponed until the third chapter of the book, when Montag first destroys his home and then Betty [7, 30].

The real embodiment of fire is perceived by Montag at that very instant, clearing out all previous uncertainty regarding the verb and solidifying fire as a dominant force of devastation. Fire is shown throughout the story as a metaphor of chaos and devastation, but when an elderly woman decides to set herself on fire among her books, it acquires a more brilliant meaning [1, 30]. Play the man, Master Ridley; this day, by God's permission, we shall light such a candle in England, which I trust shall never be snuffed out! the woman cries in her dying moments [1,40]. Fire shifts from being a destructive element to becoming a representation of fortitude, bravery, and opposition in the face of impending death. Fire turns into the cozy "torch" that, in some mysterious way, enables the hopeless woman to devote her life for her cherished books [1].

Fire is both what kills the woman and what keeps her alive, despite the fact that fire is what ultimately brings about her tragic demise [1]. In fact, Bradbury states that the fire "means" a different thing to [Montag]; unlike earlier in the book, the fire "[is] not burning, it [is] warming" [1] to the fugitive fireman. In contrast to the elderly woman with her books, fire represents warmth and optimism to Montag [1]. It does not, however, signify courage or strength. As John Huntington puts it, "Montag has empowered the novel to change dystopia into paradise by saving fire for the positive, natural side." [3]. In essence, the way in which fire is used to represent the existing state of society in Bradbury's dystopian society reveals a lot about the nature of his metaphors [3]. The dystopian culture, which used fire to eliminate sources of new, undesirable information, was ultimately defeated by that same force, allowing the world to be given the chance to be resurrected into a utopia.

The various uses of fire as a metaphor of warmth and devastation add to the novel's literary richness. Donald Watt asserts that "fire as a constructive activity, and blazing as apocalyptic catastrophe, are the metaphorical poles of Bradbury's work" [7, 225]. "Fahrenheit 451" does, in fact, frequently use the "antithesis of extremes" between "fire as devastating and fire as converting or life-giving," producing a specific literary impact that allows Bradbury to contrast numerous themes [7,240]. Bradbury uses fire as a symbol for the unpredictability of the world; he does this by using fire to show how certain things can be both life-giving and destructive [7,230]. In fact, "Fahrenheit 451" 's literary worth is substantially enhanced by the depth of fire's symbolic meaning.

According to a quote from Ray Bradbury, "We were living in the midst of the McCarthy era when I produced my novel Fahrenheit 451 between the years of 1949 and 1953. The burning of whole sale books and panic were very real possibilities. Never in a million years did I think we might go all out and do this to ourselves. I've always thought that our civilization in America has the capacity to correct mistakes without resorting to violence". [6,403], 403-404.

"Fahrenheit 451" 's frequent and symbolic "book burning" is more of a warning for coming generations to heed than it is a fiction statement for literary entertainment. "Fahrenheit 451" is about the ongoing conflict between cluelessness and knowledge, between TV news and books, and serves as a warning against any attempts to censor controversial or thought-provoking works of literature [4].

Ray Bradbury had the impression that the broadcasting and mass media of the 1950s would constantly grow without boundaries. The complex lesson of *Fahrenheit 451* is, in Rodney A. Smolla's words, that "humanity would be better off assessing the puzzling possibility that a resolve to not censor hateful speech may actually leave us more secure and safe, more racially tolerant, and more bound to one another as a cohesive moral community" [9, 895].

The Nazi book burnings during World War II are perhaps the most well-known of all book burnings, and Bradbury alludes to them in his own book [2,3]. In fact, "Fahrenheit 451" 's constant oblique allusion to the Nazi government has a significant impact on the growth and operation of Bradbury's dystopian society [2,20]. Smolla justifies the book burning in Bradbury's book by saying that Beatty said, "We can't have our minorities aroused and stirred." Beatty contends that safe speech, not hate speech, is what the public wants. Because they force us to consider concepts like racial stereotypes, discrimination, and repression, books ought to be destroyed. [9,895]

Summing up that, Ray Bradbury skilfully crafts a message against forced censorship and in support of the liberation of the intellect through his futuristic novel "Fahrenheit 451". Bradbury uses a range of literary devices to effectively portray a specific message because to his flawless command of language. Ray Bradbury is able to tell a compelling story full of messages that, in the end, help make a significant contribution to the overarching moral of "Fahrenheit 451", encouraging all to fight cluelessness with wisdom and to rebel against the status quo when necessary. Ray Bradbury does this by using symbols, allegories, metaphors, and allusions to connect his literary work to a larger scale.

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