



Analysis of Nabokov's "Lolita"

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Annotation: The article deals with the creative activity of V.V. Nabokov, and also analyzes the originality of the problems, plot, theme and ideas of the work "Lolita".

Keywords: literature, plot, work, theme, problem, creative activity.

Vladimir Vladimirovich Nabokov is a Russian-American poet and writer, a versatile person, a Nobel Prize winner, the author of a masterpiece of world literature - Lolita, which will be discussed in my article. The novel appeared in the light in 1955 after eight years of long work on it. However, it was printed and brought to society far abroad, in America, but it is worth noting that even there the work was printed with great difficulty thanks to the writer's wife, Vera Slim. The book was a huge success, although it was considered "the dirtiest of all little books." Naturally, critics flared up with scandals, but the work began to be passed from hand to hand, over time, the author's translation illegally reached Russia. The first twelve chapters were originally called "Kingdom by the Sea", but after the writing of the novel, it was reformulated.

Also, the work, according to the researchers, was originally supposed to be called "Lolita. Confessions of a fair-skinned widower. In reality, there are three rather strange stories that are incredibly similar to the plot of Lolita. The first of them is connected with eleven-year-old Sally Horner from New Jersey, the second with the confession of a Russian pedophile, nobleman Victor H., and the third with the love story of Charlie Chaplin and his second wife, Lita Grey.

The work belongs to the postmodern, we observe a peculiar situation, atypical characters, in addition, the description of America itself is embellished. The general reader will perceive this book as pornography, but Nabokov, in his Afterword to the American Edition, explains the difference between pornography and its aesthetics. Connoisseurs of his work will see elements of a detective here, similarities with the magnificent novel "Crime and Punishment" and many other detective stories.

From the very first pages, the reader determines for himself a clear line and problems of the novel. However, it is worth considering that it is not the criminal connection between the girl and the pervert that is central here, but precisely the psychological state, the reasons that led to this attraction, the passion of the unhealthy personality of Humbert Humbert.

Also, the problems of the novel include the society of the then Europe, the morality of the existing society, and most importantly, the problem of raising children in a healthy world, which has not lost its relevance to this day.

The novel itself is dedicated to his wife, whom the writer dearly loved and, as some sources say, did not feel passion for "nymphets" - teenage girls. However, this statement raises numerous doubts, since when studying Nabokov's biography, those facts are known, such as the fact that the writer



considered marriage not an obstacle to short love affairs, in addition, he even openly declared all his passions. It is worth emphasizing that they included students of colleges and universities, where he taught, as later, after the release of *Lolita*, Katherine Freese Peebles, in defense of her teacher, spoke out in an interview that Nabokov did not love little girls, namely young. Thus, after the release of the novel, the writer was accused of indifference to the "nymphets", and without finding any evidence for this.

Turning to the novel itself, undoubtedly, the first attention is focused on the name of the protagonist - Humbert Humbert. Why exactly Humbert and why is the name of the hero repetitive? Most likely, with such a rude name, the author emphasizes his passion. And the repetition is associated with the literary method, showing the "common expression of the face." On the other hand, repetition is also related to the literary device, where the hero is deliberately left without a name or surname in order to point out his existing secret or hidden flaw in his nature.

As for *Lolita*, this is the shortened name of the girl. Her full name is Dolores. It is of Spanish origin and quite popular at that time, it's like finding the name Nastya in any Russian work. In the work we see all sorts of abbreviations of this name: Lolita, Lola, Lo, Dolly. It is worth emphasizing that after the high-profile release of this book, mothers stopped calling their daughters that, considering this name to provoke male interest. But, as we know, Nabokov subtly felt every little detail of his masterpiece, therefore, he knew perfectly well the translation and purpose of this name - "suffering". That is, he introduces the names of the main characters for a deeper understanding by the reader of their way of life.

The hero leads a confession, analyzing his life, remembering all the moments of his distant childhood, in which he was in love with the thirteen-year-old Annabella Lee. Everything for him turns into an unexpected happy event, as if arranged by someone for his benefit. It seems that even the demon helps him achieve his intended goal: "No person is capable of committing an ideal crime by himself; the case, however, is capable of this ... "

Thanks to the writer's language, we clearly represent the whole situation of ongoing events, the surrounding nature, the images of heroes. The writer did a very good job of conveying his feelings. It is no coincidence that Nabokov was compared to Tolstoy. But! After reading almost half of the novel, immersed in this situation, it is noticeable that the image of the protagonist is not given out, he appears only after the twenty-sixth chapter, which forces the reader's imagination to create his own image, which complicates the work, because if the drawn outlines do not match reality, the mind becomes clouded.

Nabokov for a long time nurtured the idea of the novel "*Lolita*", being afraid of the "forbidden topic" himself, therefore, he was afraid of betraying that image of Humbert, clearly realizing that the reader would see Nabokov himself in him and would be deeply condemned. In the earliest works, we can trace plots that coincide exactly with this work. At the end of writing the novel, the writer spent a painfully long time choosing between destroying the manuscript or releasing it anonymously.

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