

Traditional Features of Fairy Tale Discourse

Ismatov Asliddin Fazliddin o'g'li

Independent researcher, associate professor of Renaissance Education University

asliddinismatov91@gmail.com

Abstract: *This article examines the traditional features of fairy tale discourse, focusing on its narrative structure, linguistic patterns, and cultural significance. It explores how fairy tales utilize timeless elements such as archetypal characters, formulaic expressions, and symbolic settings to convey universal themes and moral lessons.*

Keywords: *fairy tale discourse, tradition, narrative structure, archetypes, formulaic language, symbolism, cultural heritage.*

Introduction.

Fairy tales have been a cornerstone of oral and written storytelling traditions across cultures for centuries. These narratives, often passed down through generations, are characterized by their whimsical yet profound nature, blending fantasy with moral undertones. The traditional features of fairy tale discourse - such as recurring motifs, archetypal characters, and a distinct linguistic style - distinguish them from other literary genres and cement their role as vessels of cultural heritage and human experience.

One of the most prominent traditional features of fairy tale discourse is its reliance on a predictable narrative structure. Fairy tales typically begin with an introductory formula, such as "Once upon a time" or "In a faraway land," setting the stage for a fantastical journey. This is followed by a central conflict - often a quest, a battle against evil, or a test of wit - and concludes with a resolution, usually a happy ending where virtue is rewarded, and vice is punished. For instance, in tales like "Cinderella" or "Snow White," the protagonist overcomes adversity through perseverance and kindness, reflecting a universal belief in justice and moral order.

Materials.

The characters in fairy tale discourse are another defining traditional element. These figures are rarely complex individuals but rather archetypes that embody specific traits or roles: the brave hero, the wicked stepmother, the wise helper, or the cunning trickster. This archetypal approach allows fairy tales to transcend cultural and temporal boundaries, making them relatable to diverse audiences. The hero's journey, often aided by magical beings or objects, underscores the traditional theme of triumph over hardship, a motif seen in stories like "The Golden Bird" or "Aladdin."

Research and methods.

Linguistically, fairy tale discourse is marked by its use of formulaic expressions and poetic devices. Phrases such as "They lived happily ever after" or repetitive patterns like "He huffed and he puffed" (from "The Three Little Pigs") create a rhythmic quality that enhances memorability and oral transmission. These linguistic traditions not only make the tales engaging but also reinforce their timeless appeal. Additionally, the use of simple yet evocative language—often enriched with vivid imagery of enchanted forests, towering castles, or mystical creatures - draws listeners into an imaginative world where the impossible becomes possible.

Symbolism plays a crucial role in the traditional fabric of fairy tale discourse. Settings like dark forests, distant kingdoms, or hidden caves are more than mere backdrops; they represent inner states of mind, challenges to be faced, or the unknown. Objects such as magic mirrors, golden apples, or spinning wheels carry symbolic weight, often serving as tools of transformation or tests of character. This symbolic layering allows fairy tales to function on multiple levels, offering both entertainment and deeper philosophical or moral insights.

Results.

Another traditional feature is the interplay of time and space, which is often fluid and ambiguous in fairy tale discourse. Time is rarely linear or specific -phrases like “long ago” or “in the blink of an eye” create a sense of timelessness, while locations are vague, such as “a far-off land” or “beyond the mountains.” This abstraction distances fairy tales from reality, emphasizing their fantastical nature and universal applicability. Unlike historical narratives, fairy tales prioritize the essence of the story over precise chronology or geography, a trait that enhances their adaptability across cultures.

Discussion.

The cultural significance of fairy tale discourse lies in its ability to preserve and transmit societal values. Through their traditional features, fairy tales often encode lessons about courage, humility, generosity, and the consequences of greed or deceit. For example, in “The Fisherman and His Wife,” the wife’s insatiable ambition leads to her downfall, reinforcing the virtue of contentment. These moral underpinnings, delivered through engaging narratives, ensure that fairy tales remain relevant as educational tools and reflections of human nature.

In conclusion, the traditional features of fairy tale discourse - its structured narrative, archetypal characters, formulaic language, symbolic depth, and fluid treatment of time and space - create a unique storytelling form that resonates across generations and cultures. These elements not only define the genre but also highlight its enduring power to entertain, educate, and inspire. By examining these characteristics, we gain a deeper appreciation for fairy tales as both artistic expressions and timeless repositories of collective wisdom.

List of used literatures:

1. Bakhtin, M.M. *Forms of Time and Chronotope in the Novel*. St. Petersburg: Azbuka, 2000.
2. Bettelheim, Bruno. *The Uses of Enchantment: The Meaning and Importance of Fairy Tales*. New York: Vintage Books, 1976.
3. Propp, Vladimir. *Morphology of the Folktale*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 1968.
4. Tatar, Maria. *The Hard Facts of the Grimms’ Fairy Tales*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1987.
5. Zipes, Jack. *Fairy Tales and the Art of Subversion*. New York: Routledge, 2006.