



THE ANALYSES OF MAIN STYLISTIC DEVICES IN "FAHRENHEIT 451" BY REY  
BRADBURY

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**Annotation:** This article is devoted to the stylistic devices the novel "Fahrenheit 451" by R. Bradbury. In the novel there are given the author's descriptions of society which relies on mass culture and consumer thinking in which all books forcing to think of life, are subject to burning; storage of books is a crime.

**Key words:** society, book image, dystopian novel, mass culture, one-dimensional man, literary tradition.

The aim of our work is to analyse the main stylistic devices used in the text «Fahrenheit 451» by R. Bradbury. In the novel the author describes society which relies on mass culture and consumer thinking in which all books forcing to think of life, are subject to burning; storage of books is a crime. The main character of the novel, Guy Montag, works as «a firefighter» (in the novel it means someone who burns books), and he is sure that he does the right work, «for the benefit of humanity». But soon he becomes disappointed in the ideals of the society which he is a part of. He is tired of such life and reads the first book and then he becomes the derelict and joins small underground group of outcasts which supporters learn texts of books by heart to save them for their descendants.

I will give some examples of personification. «*With this great python spitting its venomous kerosene upon the world*». In this sentence the tip of a fire engine is compared to an enormous python. The stylistic device is used to strength reader's perception: it becomes so real that even the tip of a fire engine comes to life. «*Her head was half bent to watch her shoes stir the circling leaves*». In the phrase «*the house jumped up in a gorging fire*» the author personifies fire, showing that it is really powerful and it can also devour everything on its way. «*It was a pleasure to burn. It was a special pleasure to see things eaten, to see things blackened and changed*». The wordplay tells us that the fire completely consumes and destroys everything on its path. The device is used to show how strong and powerful the fire is. [1, 10].

One of the most powerful tools that Ray Bradbury uses in Fahrenheit 451 is symbolism. One of the main symbols that he uses in the whole novel is the story of a phoenix. A phoenix is a bird that is able to burn, but then it rises out of the ashes to live another life. The phoenix is also the logo on the helmets of the firemen. "There was a silly damn bird called a phoenix before Christ, every few hundred years he builds a pyre and brunt himself up, he sprang out of the ashes, he got himself born all over, and it looks like we're doing the same thing, over and over, but we've got one damn thing the phoenix never had" (Bradbury 156). Bradbury uses the symbol of the phoenix because it sparks a new era. Granger compares humanity to a

phoenix at the end of the book because civilians are making destruction to themselves, then afterwards rebuilding a new civilization, just like how the phoenix will rise out of the ashes. Montag is hoping to rebuild a new society. [ 2, 23].

Clarisse McClellan is the embodiment of being the other in the perfect system, even though she is only seventeen. She is just the opposite of the people who are highly engaged with unnatural activities. She enjoys nature, walks in the forest and in the rain, and watches the animals, activities of which are beyond the taste of her society. Unlike the other people in the system, she rarely watches the parlour walls or goes to races and Fun Parks. She does not like what other people like. Therefore, she is regarded as anti-social among her friends. On the other hand, she does not have friends, as she is afraid of her peers because "everyone she knows is either shouting or dancing around like wild or beating up one another [3,27] They kill each other."

Literary devices:

- Symbolism: fire, the phoenix, the river
- Imagery: the burning of books, the mechanical hound, the cityscape
- Irony: the firemen who start fires instead of putting them out
- Foreshadowing: the hints of rebellion and dissent that Montag encounters
- Allusion: references to historical events and literary works.

The book also explores the impact of technology on society and the dangers of mass media and entertainment. Bradbury was concerned about the way that television and other forms of mass media were influencing American society in the 1950s, and the book reflects these concerns. The book suggests that the pursuit of pleasure and entertainment can lead to a shallow and meaningless existence. Bradbury's writing style is florid and energetic, giving a sense of urgency and desperation with lengthy sentences containing sub-clauses that crash into each other: [4,45].

"Her face was slender and *milk-white*, and it was a kind of *gentle hunger* that touched over everything with a *tireless curiosity*. It was a look of almost *pale surprise*; *the dark eyes were so fixed to the world that no move escaped them*." Bradbury uses two main devices to convey an emotional urgency to the reader.

Motives and symbols are used throughout literature to represent ideas and concepts that help develop the story's themes. Bradbury weaves many motifs and symbols throughout *Fahrenheit 451* to help bring attention to and emphasize the critical messages he conveys. Motifs related to religion and paradoxes are found throughout the text, and they are often designed to make the reader question various aspects of the society in *Fahrenheit 451*. In contrast, nature imagery helps to illustrate the distinction between Montag's society and a world untouched by the destructive nature of technology. Symbols are often used to represent the dual purposes of fire, the threat posed by technology, and the importance of self-awareness and identity.

While technology has destroyed humanity through mass media, Bradbury also

includes physically destructive forms of technology. The highly advanced Mechanical Hound is used for hunting down and killing or anesthetizing people. Cars have become tools for reckless danger, as their high-speed capabilities encourage quick thrills that often result in deadly accidents. Advanced weaponry creates the most physically destructive force in the novel, as an atomic bomb wipes out the entire city at the end of the novel. By fleeing the city and ridding himself of his society's technological tools, Montag can begin his journey to find meaning and purpose in his life. [5, 76].

Through the book, the current situation in the world concerning censorship comes out. It is easy for any reader to find the current world situation concerning censorship and media gagging through a subtle and close reflection of what the book causes. But even more impressive is the precise reflection of the effects of television on society, especially concerning reading the literature.

One of the exciting insinuations in the book is the portrayal of people as their enemies. There is a blatant disregard of each other among human beings, the culture of alienation mainly fronted by the media.

In Fahrenheit 451, Mildred, Montag's wife, is a clear representation of the current world, which is likely to turn into in the future thanks to the media. Mildred and her friends spend most of their time watching television walls in the "parlor," intentionally ignoring the problems around them till the issues get out of control. There is the only preoccupation for them, which is the program schedule. [6,42].

"Old Montag wanted to fly near the Sun and now that he's burnt his damn wings, he wonders why" – Captain Beatty refers to Greek myth of Icarus, whose father made him wings to fly, but flew too high until the wings melted, he fell to his death. Beatty says that Montag wanted too much to defy the law and keep a library, that his downfall is his own doing, when Montag's desire to understand is reasonable. Conclusions. Summing up all analyzed material it should be said that allusion plays important role as text-making element in the novel "Fahrenheit 451" by Ray Bradbury. Using different types of allusions, the author appeals to readers' opinions, emotional fillings and moods making unforgettable impression on them with his work. The used allusions are not accidental in the text of the novel, but an essential part of the author's creative technology [7, 95].

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