

## ELEMENTS OF AUTOBIOGRAPHY IN Ch. BRONTË'S NOVEL "JANE EYRE"

Svitlana K. Revutskya, Mykhailo Tuhan-Baranovskiyi Donetsk National University of Economics and Trade (Ukraine)

E-mail: revutsk@ukr.net

Maryna V. Forgel, Mykhailo Tuhan-Baranovskiyi Donetsk National University of Economics and Trade (Ukraine)

E-mail: revutsk@ukr.net

DOI: 10.32342/2523-4463-2020-2-20-11

**Key words:** *genre, autobiography, autofiction, fiction, autobiographical fact, genre features.*

Stable interest of readers in the autobiographies of famous people encourages authors to find different ways of presence / absence of the author-narrator in the text, to balance the relationship between biographical truth and fiction in contradictory living conditions, etc., which gives rise to metagenres in literature. The study of the origins of autobiographical writing and the clarification of the actual genre specificity of works of an autobiographical nature, obviously, should be sought in the array of classical literature. Works that are debatable in defining the genre need special attention.

Domestic and foreign researchers have repeatedly drawn attention to the distinction between the specifics of genres containing autobiographical data: a novel / the story is an autobiography, memoirs, a confessional novel, an autofiction, essays, diaries, etc., but the autobiography of Charlotte Brontë's novel "Jane Eyre", originally called "Jane Eyre. Autobiography", needs clarification. Therefore, the aim of the article is to clarify the genre specifics and elements of biographical writing in Charlotte Brontë's novel "Jane Eyre".

Defining the genre of Charlotte Brontë's novel "Jane Eyre" is problematic, as it is difficult to call it autobiographical, given that the author herself defined the genre of the work in the original title and, accordingly, was guided not so much by literary criteria as by her own understanding. All this determined the formulation of the purpose of the article to find out the genre specifics and elements of biographical writing in Charlotte Brontë's novel "Jane Eyre".

The paper widely presents the positions of various scholars on the genre features of autobiographical writing, analyzed their coincidences in the novel "Jane Eyre". Attention is emphasized to the fact that we have a number of indisputable facts-memories about the author's childhood in a piece of writing, but they are most likely a method of rethinking and self-knowledge of the writer, although there are moments of authorial openness in the main character.

It turns out that it is impossible to determine definitively that the novel "Jane Eyre" is an autobiography. However, this term is important for establishing theories about the biographical content of Ch. Brontë in her novel. Newer genres, such as autofiction, have helped to define the process by which real aspects are represented by fictional facts.

Given the various theories of research on the genre features of autobiography in a piece of writing, including the relationship between author, character and narrator, the pact between reader and author allows us to consider certain passages of "Jane Eyre" as a first-person narrative by Ch. Brontë.

## References

1. Garanin, L.Ya. *Memuarnyj zhanr sovetskoy literatury: istoriko-teoretichesky ocherk* [Memoir genre of Soviet literature: historical-theoretical essay]. Minsk, Nauka i tehnika Publ, 1986, 223 p.
2. Diurba, D.V. *Zhanrovi osoblyvosti romaniv Dzheka Keruaka* [Genre features of Jack Kerouac's novels]. *Visnyk Mariupolskoho derzhavnogo universytetu. Seriya: Filolohiia* [Bulletin of the Mariupol State University. Series: Philology], 2014, issue 11, pp. 24-31.
3. Krykavska, O. *Zhanrolohichni aspekt vyvchennia biohrafichnogo pysma: zb. st.* [Genreological aspect of studying biographical writing: collection of articles]. *Naukovi zapysky Nacionalnogo universitetu "Ostrozka akademiia". Seriya "Filolohichna"* [Scientific Proceedings of the National University of "Ostroh Academy". "Philology" Series], 2008, issue 10, pp. 367-377.
4. Horlach, M.V. *Avtobiohrafichni motyvy romannoï tvorchosti Doris Lessinh* [Autobiographical motives of novel creativity Doris Lessing]. *Naukovi zapysky Kharkivskoho natsionalnogo pedahohichnogo universytetu im. H.S. Skovorody. Seriya: Literaturoznavstvo* [Scientific Notes of H.S. Skovoroda Kharkiv National Pedagogical University. Series: Literary Studies], 2013, issue 3 (1), pp. 52-59.
5. Kuniyska, I. *Roman-biohrafiiia yak zhanrovyyi riznovyd modernistskoho romanu (S. Moem "Misiats i midiaky")* [Novel-biography as a genre variant of the modernist novel (S. Moem "Moon and Sixpence")]. *Suchasni literaturoznavchi studii* [Modern Literary Studies], 2014, issue 11, pp. 342-348.
6. Tsiapa, A.H. *Avtobiohrafiiia yak proektsiia tvortsia ta natsionalnoi literaturno-kulturnoi tradytsii (Ulas Samchuk, Elias Kanetti)*. Avtoref. diss. kand. filol. nauk [Autobiography as a projection of the creator

and the national literary and cultural tradition (Ulas Samchuk, Elias Canetti). Extended abstract of cand. philol. sci. diss.]. Ternopil, 2006, 20 p.

7. Dilthey, W. Selected Works: in 6 volumes. R.A. Makkreel and F. Rodi (eds.). Princeton, NJ, Princeton University Press, 1985, vol. 5, 391 p.

8. Lezhèn, F. *V zashhitu avtobiografii: Jesse raznyh let* [In defense of autobiography: Essays of different years]. *Inostrannaja literatura* [Foreign Literature], 2000, no 4. Available at: <https://magazines.gorky.media/inostran/2000/4/v-zashhitu-avtobiografii.html> (Accessed 07 September 2020).

9. Bahan, Kh.V. *Avtobiohrafii, memuary, shchodennyk: typolohichni vidminnosti* [Autobiography, memoirs, schoolboy: typological views]. *Naukovi zapysky Natsionalnoho universytetu "Ostrozka akademiia". Seriiia "Filolohichna"* [Scientific Proceedings of the National University of "Ostroh Academy". Series "Philology"], 2015, issue 52, pp. 33-35.

10. Vasilyeva, Ye.V. *Tvorchestvo Sh. Bronte i Je. Gaskell v kontekste duhovnyh iskanij ranneviktorianskogo perioda*. Diss. kand. filol. nauk [Work of Ch. Brontë and E. Gaskell in the context of spiritual searches of the early Victorian era. Cand. philol. sci. diss.]. Saint Petersburg, 2017, 407 p.

11. Brontë, Ch. *Dzhejn Jejr* [Jane Eyre]. Trans. from English. I. Gurova. Moscow, Inostranka, Azbuka-Anntikus Publ., 2012, 544 p.

12. Ihoshev, K. M. *Roman-spohad i avtofiksiiia: odnakovi chy rizni zhanry?* [Novel-memory and autofiction: the same or different genres?]. *Visnyk LNU imeni Tarasa Shevchenka: Filologichni nauky* [Bulletin of Luhansk Taras Shevchenko National University. Philological Sciences], 2011, vol. 6 (217), pp. 66-71.

13. Kohan, S.A. *Autoficción: escribe tu vida real o novelada* [Autofiction: write your real or fictional life]. Barcelona, Alba Publ., 2016, 222 p.

14. Waugh, P. *Metafiction: The Theory and Practice of Self-Conscious Fiction*. London, Routledge Publ., 1984, 175 p.

15. Alberca, M. *El pacto ambiguo: de la novela autobiográfica a la autoficción* [The ambiguous pact: from the autobiographical novel to autofiction]. Madrid, Biblioteca Nueva Publ., 2007, 329 p.

Одержано 7.09.2020.