

ABSTRACTS

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ALLUSIONS FUNCTIONING IN OSCAR WILDE'S SHORT STORIES

Allusion, as a complicated stylistic device to communicate the thought of the encoder to the receiver, plays the role of the bridge which unites the author, speaker and the reader or listener by eradicating the gap between them.

In the process of interpretation the allusion should not be confused with such notions as the reference and intertextuality. If the description is detailed and the reader can easily draw any parallels with the real object or subject, it will be considered as a reference. While allusion works best if the author or speaker alludes to something which the readership or audience can be familiar with, but without giving any profound commentaries, thus, it always contains the intention of the author. If we are talking about intertextuality, it is unintentionally and even subconsciously created by the author notwithstanding his desire.

So, the allusion is regarded as an intellectual stylistic device, that serves to be understood, contains authors intention not only to communicate the hidden sense or idea but also to give more diversified and advance description of the object or character

The short stories written by Oscar Wilde contain different allusions starting from the illustrious historical personalities and finalizing with the great mythical creatures or biblical characters.

In order to have a whole picture of the phenomenon in the course of our investigation we offer the classification based on the nature of the allusions: Greek mythology (*Hydra, Sphinx, Jove or Jupiter, Aurora Borealis and God Memnon*); The Bible (*Judas or Judas kiss, Pentateuch, Garden of Paradise and Catherine's Wheel*); Famous places (*Cleopatra's Needle, Palace of Sans-Souci, Temple of Baalbec*); Pictorial art (*Gioconda or Mona Lisa*); Historical personalities (*Memnon, Gioconda, Borgia*).

This approach discloses the objects of the author's interest and shows the scope of the background. Moreover, it contributes to the understanding the hidden ideas and provides, in case of Wilde, a new interpretation of the old truths. Oscar Wilde is a perfect example of the author who preferred to hide the truth from the reader's eyes. With every comparison he fulfilled the character personality in the deepest way one could imagine and described the situation as a more complicated one with a help of the most intricate and complex stylistic devices.