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CREATION OF NANNY HAWKINS IN BRIDESHEAD REVISITED BY EVELYN WAUGH

Sharipov Ma'mur Mansurovich,
Bukhara State University,
the teacher of English Literature department
Orcid 0000-0002-4395-7019
m.m.sharipov1@buxdu.uz



Annotation. This article analyzes To introduce the image of the nanny, the author uses the description of her appearance and life. The author draws the reader's attention to the fact that the nanny is an integral part of home life outside the city, and that she has worked for many years and was able to achieve dignity and peace in her old age.

Key words. Servant, Nanny Hawkins, novel, character, low class.

The novel "Brideshead Revisited" is one of the best novels of Evelyn Waugh, a famous writer, satirist and psychologist of the 20th century, the author of world-famous masterpieces. Back to Brideshead is a special book, and its overall tone differs from Evelyn Waugh's other works in its portrayal of tenderness and sadness. The novel, published in 1945, is not a return to the past, but a farewell look at youth and love during the departure of the last aristocratic families from England.

The plot of the novel takes place in 1942. At the beginning of the novel, Captain Charles Ryder remembers his youth, meeting Sebastian, the youngest son of the Flight family, with the family of Lord Marchmain, who had a very close relationship with the whole family.

The plot of the novel depicts a period of great changes in the life of society in general, and in the life of servants in particular, in Great Britain. After the First World War, the number of servants decreased significantly, but in large suburban houses such as Brideshead, this change was less noticeable. For the nobles of that time, whites were still a symbol of social status, an indicator of the functioning of the class system of society.

On his second visit to Brideshead, Charles describes his visit to his country house as follows: *"We had turned the corner of the drive now, the colour had died in the woods and sky, and the house seemed painted in grisaille, save for the central golden square at the open door. A man was waiting to take my luggage".¹*

The first sentence of the paragraph describes the house outside the city, and the second sentence tells about the servant waiting for the guests to arrive. The use of a large number of impersonal passive sentences in the descriptive parts of the work indicates that the servants are being ignored here: *"The normal practice was for a cocktail tray to be brought into the drawing-room at six; we mixed our own drinks and the bottles were removed when we went to dress; later, just before dinner, cocktails*

¹Waugh, E. Brideshead Revisited. - Penguin Books Ltd, 1987. – P.91.



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appeared again, this time handed round by the footmen. (P.151) The dinner was announced, and we went to the dining-room where the subject was not mentioned.(P.153) Tea has been cleared away and the curtains drawn.(P.175) I watched the champagne round the table. (P.180) The two drinks were brought in, poured out already in the glasses. (P.181) Tea was brought us at the hall fireplace.(P.362)

In our opinion, the repetition of selected grammatical structures performs a certain linguopoetic task. Such sentences in the text of the novel show how common it is for a house outside a big city to have a large number of servants who do all the work and remain invisible. On the other hand, thanks to them, the house outside the city worked perfectly, and its owners could live without worrying about anything.

In the middle of the novel, we find further evidence that the prosperity of the house outside the city is far behind, but these changes are not yet reflected in the lives of its inhabitants, Julia Marchmain's son-in-law, Rex Mottram tells Charles that the Marchmain family is living a high life beyond its means and debts. tells about: *"Look at the way they live Brideshead and Marchmain House both going full blast, pack of foxhounds, no rents raise, nobody sacked, dozens of old servants doing damn all, being waited on by other servants, and then besides all that there is the old boy setting up a separate establishment."* (P.201)

For high expressiveness, repetitions are used in Rex Mottram's speech, primarily the repetition of negatives, nobody, as well as the vulgarism damn all, which reflects the emotional state of the character. During the Second World War, life in the house outside the city changes dramatically. In the novel's epilogue, Charles Brideshead returns home. The house outside the town is in a terrible state because it houses a group of soldiers, only a few servants remain, they live upstairs, the fountain, which the Marchmain family cherished, is surrounded by barbed wire to prevent the soldiers from bathing, the fountain bowl is trash filled with cigarette and sandwich remains, all the rooms on the first floor are empty, and the second floor is filled to the ceiling with furniture or closed: *"That fountain is rather a tender spot with our landlady; the young officers used to lark about in it on guest nights and it was looking a hit the worse for wear, so I wired it in and turned the water off. Looks a hit untidy now, all the drivers throw their cigarette-ends and the remains of the sandwiches there, and you can't get to it to clean it up, since I put the wire round it. (P.391)I did not spend long in the desolate ground-floor rooms, but I went upstairs and wandered down the familiar corridors, trying doors that were locked, opening doors into rooms piled to the ceiling with furniture."* (P.391-392)

To lark, the worse for wear, untidy, cigarette-ends, the remains of the sandwiches, desolate words and phrases with negative connotations, as well as wired, wire repetitions to create an image of a neglected house outside the city and the hero's sadness It helps to convey his and his regrets more deeply.

Despite the fact that most of the servants in the house outside the city are invisible, we find a brief mention of them in the novel.

Sebastian introduces Charles to the babysitter during his first visit home. The author gives the following description of the nanny: "Sebastian: nanny was seated at the open window, fountain lay before her, the lakes, the temple, and, far away on the last spur, a glittering obelisk, her hands lay open in her lap and, loosely between them, a rosary; she was just asleep." (P.44-45)

Apparently, the author emphasizes that the nanny is an integral part of Hawkins' Brideshead life. In addition, the author Hawkins gives a brief and concise description of the nanny's life: "Long hours of work in youth, authority in middle life, repose and security in her age, had set their stamp on her lined and severe face." (P.45)



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On the face of Nanny Hawkins, her whole life is imprinted - the tedious work of her youth, the unquestioned prestige of her maturity, the peace and contentment of her old age. Repetition of syntactic structures in this description (syntactic parallelism) attracts the reader's attention, allows the information to be condensed and makes the description lively.

Thus, to introduce the character of Hawkins' nanny, the author uses the description of her appearance and life. The author draws the reader's attention to the fact that the nanny is an integral part of home life outside the city, and she was able to achieve dignity and peace in old age by working for many years.

Hawkins' speech portrait of the nanny is distinguished by the observance of all the norms of the literary language. It is known that the highest-ranking servants in houses outside the big cities spoke English perfectly, and their speech was no different from that of their masters. Hawkins' nanny speech is characterized by the use of infinitives and modal verbs after modal verbs, which is an indicator of a good knowledge of the literary norm of the English language. "Yes, dear, you must have just missed her. It's the Conservative Women Her ladyship was to have done them, but she's poor." (P.45)

In the speech of the hero, the author uses polysyndeton, that is, it is expressed by unreasonable frequent repetition of words or conjunctions. For example, Nanny Hawkins tells Sebastian about the news of her home life outside the city: "*You've to me just the right time Julia's here for the day. Such a tune they're all having. It's dull without them. Just Mrs Chandler and two of the girls and old Bert. And then they 're all going on holidays and the holler's being done out in August and you are going to see his Lordship in Italy, and the rest on visits, it's be October before we 're settled down again.*" (P.45)

The excessive use of the word "and" in the character's speech is used to show that the nanny is from a low class background. Also interesting is the use of the pronoun "we" in the last sentence of the example, which shows the special relationship between the nanny and the Marchmain family, that the nanny considers herself a member of the family.

Thus, the speech portrait of Nanny Hawkins, on the one hand, characterizes her as part of the common people, and on the other hand, shows that the nanny, who worked for many years in the house of the rich and famous outside the city, learned to speak literary English. Many details speak of the special relationship between the nanny and her children. For example, in the image of the nanny's room, the author describes the collection of gifts brought by his students called "her children" in a chest in the nanny's room: "... laid out on the top of the chest of drawers and carefully dusted, were the collection of small presents which had been brought home to her at various times by her children, souvenirs of many holidays." (P.46)

Although she worked at home for many years and was a servant, she found peace and contentment in her old age. Later, we see that when Sebastian loses contact with his family, he never forgets the nanny and wishes her a happy New Year: "Ne always sends to tea at Christmas, but it's not the same as having him home." (P.345)

The nanny, an integral part of the country house, is mentioned by the author in the description of all of Charles's visits to the country house. During his last visit before the war, Charles insisted that the nanny would never change. When the hero comes home during the war, he discovers that Nanny Hawkins has not left Briadshead. Charles decides to visit the nanny and notices that she has undergone significant changes, as has the house outside the city. She was very old, her eyesight was impaired, and



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now she could only do sewing: “*She, who had changed so little in all the years I knew her, had lately become greatly aged. The changes of the last years had come too late in her life to be accepted and understood, her sight was failing, she told me, and she could see only the coarsest needlework.*” (P.552-553)

There is a clear contrast between “had changed so little in all the years I knew her” and “had lately become greatly aged” in the sentence. On the one hand, these concepts are contrasted, which makes the image created by the author brighter and more impressive, on the other hand, “in all the years I knew her” and “lately” are opposites. With its help, the author emphasizes how quickly and dramatically the war changed people's lives.

Even Hawkins's speech about her years of service as an out-of-town nanny shows that she thinks well of him.

“Only myself here and the two girls and poor Father Membling who was blown up, not a roof to his head nor a stick of furniture till Julia took him in with the kind heart she's got, and his nerves something shocking Lady Brideshead, too, Marchmain it is now, who ought by rights to call her Ladyship now, but it doesn't come naturally, it was the same with her. First, when Julia and Cordelia left for the war, she came here with the two boys and then the military turned them out, so they went to London, nor they hadn't been in their house not a month, and tumbled away with the yeomanry the same as his poor Lordship, when they were browned up too, everything gone, all the furniture she brought here and kept in the couch-house.” (P.392)

As can be seen from the example, the author's use of syntactic and stylistic tools occupies a central place in the nanny's speech. In the speech of Nanny Hawkins, there is a large use of polysyndeton, long sentences that violate the direct word order characteristic of conversational speech, using a large number of adverbial clauses with conjunctions, gives a special tone to the nanny's speech. At the end of our study of the character of the nanny in the novel, we have to dwell on the attitude of the author. Since the story is told by the main character Charles Ryder, the author's attitude is not directly expressed in the text of the novel. The reader's reaction to the nanny is based on the comments and descriptions of the main character, for whom the nanny is a symbol of the old traditions and foundations of the suburban home of British society. Nanny Hawkins lived a long life, worked for many years in a house outside the city, she earned the respect and love of the whole family, and even became a part of it. It is impossible not to note the author's sympathy and respect for the hero, which is reflected in the use of positive words and phrases such as “long hours of work, authority, lined and serene face, repose and security” at the language level.

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