

## JANE AUSTEN'S ROMANCE NOVELS AS A MODEL FOR A MODERN LOVE STORY

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Nowadays there exists a controversial opinion that young people are not interested in literature as their parents used to be. But I cannot agree with it. On the contrary, I should mention that literary online communities are getting more and more popular where the users upload their literary works and get readers' comments on their stories and books. It causes a great interest in classical literature, in the secrets of those writers and poets who enjoy tremendous popularity throughout the centuries. I am not an exception and I would like to learn about them, too.

I am the author of 9 literary works in the Russian language, three of which have been published. And realizing the fact that a novel in English would help me to increase the number of my readers, I decided to study the literary heritage of “the first lady in English literature” Jane Austen and write my own story based on her works. Being the author of romance novels, she is the only English novelist of the decade in which she published who is still widely read today. Exploring the phenomenon of her popularity, I have managed to find out that all her novels have been filmed many times and cause genuine interest throughout the world [6]. Her books are still being sold as bestsellers and it is a problem to borrow Jane Austen's novels from our local libraries as all her books are read by the citizens. How many novelists on current bestseller lists might expect such a legacy several centuries hence?

While reading her novels “Pride and Prejudice” and “Emma” and studying the critical reviews on the subject, I have found out that Jane Austen wrote in a different way from her contemporaries and broke many of the rules about writing fiction of that time. Her chief characteristics as a novelist are as follows:

- realism [1, p. 35, p. 76, p. 90, p. 188];
- matrimony [1, p. 5, pp. 442–443; 2, pp. 239–243, pp. 311–322];
- Jane Austen's great use of humour and irony [2, p. 113, p. 175];
- Jane Austen's character portrayal [1, p. 94, pp. 234–242; 2, p. 3, p. 7, pp. 12–14, pp. 17–18, pp. 23–24, p. 89, p. 184, p. 199, pp. 385–387];
- few dramatic or melodramatic incidents in her novels [2; 5];
- Jane Austen's novels show a remarkable objectivity on her part [5];
- the limited outlook [1, pp.282–284; 5];

- few landscape and weather descriptions [1, pp. 193–194, pp. 286–288];
- rich vocabulary and complicated grammar structures [2, p. 96].

I used the novel “Pride and Prejudice” as a model for my own work “Faith and Forgiveness”, but I wasn’t aimed at copying her idea and the plot completely. The modern version of “Pride and Prejudice”, which has my name on the cover, is the reflection of my own perception of the world, my vision of the motives of people’s actions [3].

As far as the literary features of the novel are concerned, I use the first person narration in my story. It helps me to give thorough psychological portrayal of the characters, especially the main heroine. As Jane Austen is well-known for her rich vocabulary and complexity of grammar structures, I use a lot of participial and infinitive constructions throughout the novel to sound more profound as well as I try to make use of some words and word combinations which were typical of her. Besides, I avoid descriptive writing as Jane Austen did, and I use it only to give a better description of the feelings of the heroine.

To crown it all, I use the alliteration in the title of my love story “Faith and Forgiveness” as Jane Austen does in her novel “Pride and Prejudice”. Unlike “the first lady in English literature”, I distinguish the two main positive character traits of the hero and the heroine, which will help them to overcome difficulties and build up their happiness [7].

As far as you can see, Jane Austen and her literary heritage are still popular today. And I will definitely say that her novels can draw young people back from downloading music from iTunes, chatting on social networks and texting their friends, and promote reading. I believe that Austen’s enduring appeal lies in her humour and irony as well as in her ability to exemplify enduring truths in the interaction of her characters.

Having read the novels “Pride and Prejudice” and “Emma” as well as having studied literary critics, I have distinguished the basic literary features of Jane Austen as a writer [4]. This author inspired me to write a modern love story “Faith and Forgiveness”, using her novel “Pride and Prejudice” as a model. Having written my book, I have uploaded it gradually on my personal page on Wattpad. My readers got interested in my book and enjoyed it. Some of them even encouraged me to write more in English. It provoked them to think about some eternal truths which I touched upon in the novel.

In my opinion, Jane Austen’s novel “Pride and Prejudice” serves a good model for writing your own quality stories in English and makes reading a very improving activity.

### **Literary sources**

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