

KASDI MERBAH UNIVERSITY - OUARGLA-

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Submitted by: SELFAOUI Mekka

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***The Implication of Symbolism in
Charlotte Bronte's 'Jane Eyre'***

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Before the Jury:

Miss Bahri Fouzia
Dr. BOUSBAI Abdelaziz
Mrs Hanafi Hind

President
Supervisor
Examiner

UKM Ouargla
UKM Ouargla
UKM Ouargla

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Dedication

I dedicate this work to all my family; especially my beloved parents
God protect them.

To my perfect brothers for their encouragement and love,
especially my lovely little sister Noor.

To all my best friends and colleagues without exception and to all whom I
love I dedicate this modest work with respect and love.

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Table of Contents

Dedication	I
Acknowledgments.....	II
Table of Contents	III
General Introduction.....	01
1-Background of the study.....	01
2-Aim of the study	01
3-Justification	02
4-Motivation.....	02
5-Research Question.....	02
6-Methodology	03
7-Dissertation Structure.....	03

Theoretical part

Chapter One: Symbolism: A General Overview

General Introduction.....	04
1.1 Aesthetics in Literature	04
1.2 Figurative Language	05
1.3 Symbolism.....	06
1.4 Theories of Symbolism.....	07
1.4.1 LANGER`S Theory.....	07
1.4.2 Whitehead`s Theory	08
Conclusion.....	09

The Practical Part

Chapter two: The Implication of Symbolism in Jane Eyre

Introduction	10
2.1 Victorian Period	10
2.2 Biography of Charlotte Bronte.....	11
2.3 Symbolism in Jane Eyre	12
2.3.1 Symbolism in Object.....	12
2.3.1.1 The Red-Room.....	13
2.3.1.2 Fire	14
2.3.1.3 Moon	15
2.3.1.4 Food	16
2.2.1.5 The Chestnut Tree	16
2.3.2 Symbolism in Characters	17
2.3.2.1 Jane Eyre.....	17
2.3.2.2 Helen Burns	18
2.3.2.3 Bretha Mason	19
2.3.2.4 Rochester.....	20
Conclusion	22
General Conclusion	23
Appendix.....	24
Works Cited.....	27
Abstract	

General Introduction

General Introduction

1-Background of the Study

2-Aim of the Study

3-Justification

4-Motivation

5-The Research Question

6-Methodology

7-Dissertation Structure

1-Background of the Study

English literature has passed through many periods, among those periods, the Victorian one, which is considered as one of the most important periods in the history of English literature.

Historically, the Victorian age revolves around the political career of Queen Victorian reign from 1837 till 1901. It was the longest reign in English history and was period of progress and reform, industrialization and social upheaval in which England witnessed a sweeping change across Victorian time. The Victorian age is distinguished by conflicts and social issues such as poverty, disease, child labor and prostitution. Furthermore, this period has seen many different movement involved literature education, science and progress.

In this period, there were great writers who are Charles Dickens, Charlotte Bronte, Oscar Wilde, so on. They used their writing with the purpose to show their readers that there are enormous problems behind the beautiful picture of the successful Victorian society. They deal with social concerns and highlight the conflict between the individual and society in their writing. The author of any literature work devotes his language and style to deliver his own messages, each author has his specific way to convey his message that is why he uses different figures of speech such as simile, metaphor, hyperbole so on, and these elements from one to another, each one has its own use and the author has motives behind using them in the literary works.

Charlotte Bronte is one of the prominent literary figures of literary world; her works have been popular and well admired by many readers. Her symbol of woman in her novel Jane Eyre which mirrored a sample of English society and English literature of that time. Jane Eyre as Charlotte Bronte uses symbolism to convey Jane's feelings of being trapped as an individual and as a woman in her day as well as life in nineteenth century England.

2- Aim of the Study

The novel Jane Eyre represents a number of interesting symbols such as the red-room, fire, moon, tree, food, Rochester, Jane Eyre, Bertha Mason, Helen burns. For this reason, this study examines the use of symbolism in Bronte's Jane Eyre (1847). It has two major objectives:

General Introduction

1-characters, objects are used symbolically.i.e, they are not meant themselves, but things are meant to be interpreted beyond them.

2-the referents to which symbols are referring shall be discussed within the work.

3- Justification

Stylistic devices play an important role in achieving different meanings in the literary works, symbolism is the most important device, which can help the reader not only to comprehend the story but also to live the story itself.

4- Motivation

Jane Eyre showed the real life of society, the purpose of Jane Eyre is not only the novel but also the character herself as a cultural heroine. Jane passed hard life, suffering childhood. The novel of Jane explores issues of morality, sacrifice and romantic love and this is what motivates us to search in the novel and look at events to interpret symbols to achieve the meaning in order to more understand charlotte`s views,emotion,and feeling.

5- Research Questions

To achieve our aim, we investigate symbolism in the novel to find answers to the following questions:

1. Why does the writer use symbols in *Jane Eyre*?
2. What are the reasons behind the use of symbolism?

6- Methodology

This work is an analytic study. It explores symbols in the novel and it discusses their use.

The data were collected through some stages, reading and understanding the whole content of the novel Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte, then making notes from the novel.

7- Dissertation Structure

The present study is entitled the implication of symbolism in charlotte Bronte's Jane Eyre. It is divided into two basic parts. The first chapter deals with an overview about the Victorian period also it deals with the notion of aesthetics in general and the notion of symbolism as a literary device, and it presents the different theories related to symbolism which are attributed to Langer , Whitehead`s theory is the one which is applied to this novel.

General Introduction

The Second chapter sheds light on the symbols used in this novel and their interpretations, as well as the samples of symbolism selected from the novel.

Theoretical Part

Chapter One

Symbolism:

A General Overview

Introduction

In this chapter, we shall investigate aesthetics of language which one related to literature. Also we will examine symbolism and figures of speech these elements are used by the writer to create the meaning of language, because without these elements in literature we cannot get the meaning of literature.

1.1. Aesthetics in Literature

Aesthetics is the art of the beauty of literature because the aesthetics hinder the whole meaning of the novel story. For that reason, Aesthetics is the sense of the beautiful in literature which means "the science of the senses" and it's concerned with sensuous "perception" and "realization" (Parlea Hofel, 01). According to Urmson, 1990" the actual word derives from the Greek term "aesthesis", which means perception and feelings as well as "realization" and "understanding".(in Par Lea Hofel,01)

According to Cuddon "The term aesthetics has come to signify something which pertains to the theory of taste. An Aesthet is one who pursues and is devoted to the beautiful in art, music, and literature"(Cuddon, 1998).

Throughout time, many great personalities have noticed that aesthetics is primarily associated with art and beauty. Plato argues the science of beauty and art in his writing and that beauty of style, harmony and grace and good rhythm depends not only on simplicity but also it is supposed to teach one how to control "lower desire" thus it instruct one to lead a virtuous life while striving for the truth. He also quoted that more writer's style and ideas are simpler the more. They attract and influence the readers. On the other hand Aristotle, as his predecessor claimed that art and beauty is a result of imitating divines and truth (Par Lea, 03).

Aesthetics in general, is the beauty of literature that is concerned with the writer's use of figurative language. Writers take or borrow some beautiful words, items to insert in his own language, writers can create a beautiful style which can be traced in the writer's use of figurative language (Fadaee, 20).

1.2. Figurative Language

Figurative language is a literary meaningful and attractive kind of expressions that refers to a specific aspect of literature (Fadaee, 20). Figures of language are language styles used by writers to make their writings more entertaining, enjoy, humorous, interesting and clear enough to make the readers reading, understand, learn new things and have much fun

On the other hand, authors use figurative language in literature to give them an aesthetic dimension. Writers use words or expressions with meanings that exist on their texts as a technique to help readers visualize what's happening in the story and actually live it (ibid).According to Fadaee who stated that:

"The language that uses figures of speech is called figurative language; however as any other style, its purpose is to add clarity and beauty to the speech."(Fadaee, 21)

Figurative language, when well used, enhances one's fiction and can be an economical way of getting an image or a point across. However, used incorrectly, figurative language can be confusing or misleading. There are many techniques that can rightly be called figurative language including symbolism, metaphor, simile, irony, hyperbole, personification, and so on. As far as our object, it is concerned with the symbolism.

1.3. Definition of Symbolism

The symbol is a word which derives from the Greek verb *symballein*, (to throw together) and "symbolon", "mark", or "sign". It originated in late 19th century France and Belgium with important figures including Mallarme, Maeterlinch, Verlain, Rimband and Redom. Symbolism started as a reaction to the naturalism and realism movements (Cuddon, 885).According to Cuddon states "a symbolism is an object, animate, which represent something else"(cuddon, 885).

The term symbolism in literature carries the meaning of the literary device that an author or poet use to create a rich environment, allowing for greater thought, interpretation of literary work.Writers have a used symbol as a beauty of the text and interpret the literary meaning in the story. The meaning of the literary of symbols should be identified inside in the text not outside it. Shaw (1881) presents the following definition for symbol:

"Symbol is something used for or regarded as, representing something else. A symbol is a word, phrase or other expression having a complex of associated meaning, in this sense, a symbol is viewed as having values different from those of whatever is being symbolized.....Many poets have used as a symbol of youth and beauty, a flag is a piece of cloth which stands for or is a symbol of a notion." (Infadaee, 20).

A symbol is characterized by a translucence of the special in the individual; also a symbol differs from an allegorical sign in that it has a real existence, whereas an allegorical sign is arbitrary. N.Friedman defines a symbol as a word or phrase with a double meaning:

"They [symbols] may derive from literal or figurative language in which what is shown . . . means, by virtue of some semblance, suggestion or association, something more or something else." to clarify this he adds: "Symbolism resembles figures of speech in having a basic doubleness in meaning between what is meant and what is said. . . but it differs in that what is said is also what is meant."(in Shuchat,02).

Here are some conventional symbols are follows:

Red: it is the symbol the color of the life principle, blood, and passion, emotion, often associated with the fire.

Sea: It is the symbol of purity, innocence.

Moon: it is the symbol of changing and returning shape, feminine symbol.

Rain: it is the symbol of sadness or new life a symbol of celestial influence in earth receives.

In addition to that, a symbol has two major types which are the personal symbols and arbitrary symbols for personal symbol is the writer or the poet create their own symbols whereas the arbitrary symbols are those common and familiar once that the reader simply can recognize their meaning like spring that is a symbol of youth and freshness.

Symbolism has a various definitions; it differs according to the theorist's ideas and views about the term symbolism.

1.4. Theories of Symbols

There are many the theorists who try to make definition of symbolism such as Langer and Whitehead:

1.4.1. Langer's Theory of Symbolism

Susanne Langer (1954) argues that symbolism is the most important item in philosophy because it shows human knowledge and comprehension of things and events. Human often use imagination to conceptualize things and express their feelings by using symbols in their daily language and writings (Susanne, 21)

Langer (1954) adds that signs permit symbol users to think or talk about something without giving any importance to its existence. In the scene where events happen. The use of symbols became very important in humans daily life, it gave them the opportunity to link the real world with the imaginary one. (ibid)

Langer states that, when using symbols writers were able to enrich their novels, explain better their ideas and makes their writings more interesting and exciting for readers. They gave more importance to symbolism than to the real objects these the symbols refer to.

Langer sees that "there's a clear relationship between the symbol, the object and the person, involving both connotation (meaning) and denotation (wanted expression)"(Susanne, 25).

Langer also said that humans were able to think of and use abstract words and meanings.

1.4.2. Whitehead's Theory

Alfred North Whitehead (1861-1947), is an English mathematician and philosopher who discussed many subjects among this subject is the symbolism.

Whitehead asserts that symbolism is very largely connected with the use of pure sense-perception in the character of symbols for more primitive elements in our experience. "The

word is a symbol, and its meaning is constituted by the ideas, images, and emotions, which it raises in the mind of the hearer (Whitehead, 01).

Whitehead defines a symbol "the human is functioning symbolically when some components of its experience elicit consciousness, beliefs, emotion, and usages respecting often components of its experience (Whitehead, 08). Whitehead argues that:

“Symbolism is very fallible in the sense that it may induce actions, feelings, emotions and beliefs about things which are only notions without exemplification in the world which the symbolism leads us to presuppose.”(Whitehead, 04)

In this quote, Whitehead explains that there is a difference between symbolism and direct knowledge; the knowledge is infallible, it should be correct (it is not exposed to errors) what you have experienced, you have experienced; but symbolism is very fallible, it is exposed to mistakes, we may make wrong interpretation of the symbol we have, we are not sure that it is correct (ibid).

Conclusion:

In this chapter has introduced different literary theories that present different definition of symbolism because it is regarded as the most prominent literary device that authors used in their works to convey messages indirectly.

The Practical Part
Chapter Two: The
Implication of Symbolism in
Jane Eyre

Introduction

Jane Eyre, is Charlotte Bronte's masterpiece novel; it reflects her real life. In this novel there is a great deal of symbolism. It explores the major symbols used in this novel and their various interpretations. This chapter presents an overview about Victorian period and Charlotte Bronte, and also the implication of symbolism in the novel.

2.1. Victorian Period

The Victorian era revolves around the political career of Queen Victoria's reign from 1837 till 1901. It was the longest reign in English history. Queen Victoria worked for the peace and prosperity of her country, she was able to keep any conflict over constitutional matters, she reigned constitutionally avoiding the storm of revolutions, she played a more active role and she was model for her people. She was beloved by the middle class who shared her moral and religious views. During this period British industry and its Imperial power grew enormously. This period is distinguished by conflicts and social issues such as poverty, diseases, child labor and prostitution. It also saw growing urbanization of England as a consequence of the industrial and technological revolution, such as, the rail way age, steam engines were being used in mines, factories and ships. This period has seen many different movement involving literature education, science and progress. Many people left their village in the hope of finding work in the cities for example: houses were built very fast to house the numerous workers arriving from the country. London became the most important city in Europe. England was still an almost entirely agricultural country. (Daniel, 04)

In this era there were many types of novels. This includes: early Victorian novel dealing with social themes (Charles Dickens) second mid Victorian novel or the novel of purpose (Bronte sisters and R.L.Stevenson) third late Victorian novel (T.Hardy and O.Wilde). So, in this period most writers were concerned with the people society and the individual. There were major novels by Dickens (*Dombey and Son*), William Makepeace Thackeray (*Vanity Fair*), Elizabeth Gaskell (*Mary Barton*), Emily Bronte (*Wuthering Heights*), Charlotte Bronte (*Jane Eyre*). For instance the novel of *Jane Eyre* illustrates many of its defining characteristics: social relevance, plain style and examines the position of woman in Victorian Britain. (ibid)

2.2. Charlotte Brontë's Biography

Charlotte Brontë is one of the most famous Victorian woman writers. She is one of those authors whose life has attracted as much attention as her writing. Gaskell was a friend of Charlotte Brontë and having been invited to write her official life, determined both to tell the truth and to honor her friend. She contacted those who had known Charlotte and travelled extensively in England and Belgium to gather material. She wrote from a vivid accumulation of letters, interviews, and observation, establishing the details of Charlotte's life and recreating her background. Through an often difficult and demanding process, Gaskell created a vital sense of a life hidden from the world. Elizabeth Gaskell usually called "Ms. Gaskell", was one of the most famous novelists and short story. Elizabeth was born on September 29, 1810 and died in November 12, 1865. Charlotte's friendship with Elizabeth Gaskell, whilst not necessarily close, was significant in that Gaskell wrote Charlotte's biography after her death in 1855. (Gaskell, 13)

Charlotte Brontë was born on 21 April 1816 in the village of Thornton, west riding Yorkshire. She was the daughter of Patrick Brontë an Irishman. Charlotte's mother died in 1821, left five daughters and one son in the care of their aunt, Elizabeth Barnwell. Charlotte was one of six children; she lives a quiet uneventful life. She spent most of her time at home. Also, the Brontë family passed a hard life from poor health and all of children died relatively young. In 1824, Charlotte and her four eldest daughters went to school, the clergy Daughter's school at Cowan Bridge, it is the poor school, In 1825, Maria and Elizabeth, came down with tuberculosis and by the time the school notified Mr. Brontë, the girls were gravely ill Maria died a few days after her return home, Elizabeth a few months later.

Charlotte left at Roe Head School again. Roe Head was a very lovely place not at all like Cowan Bridge. Charlotte became an excellent learner at this school and she met her two life long friends Ellen Nussey and Mary Taylor. She returned to Roe Head School in 1835 as a governess. In 1842 Charlotte and Emily went to Brussels to complete their studies at the pensionnat Heger. At the end of the year, they returned to England at the death of their aunt in 1843 Charlotte returned to Brussels to continue her studies for a year. During this time, Brontë fell in love with a teacher at the school M. Heger. (Joyce, 03)

The events of Charlotte's life occurred during the months between October of 1847 and June of 1848 when she and her two surviving sisters, Emily and Anne, emerged quiet

suddenly as successful novelists Charlotte and her two sisters published a volume of poetry which got little review, called poems of Currer, Ellis and Acton Bell under pseudonyms by 1847. (ibid)

Charlotte Bronte has three famous novel Jane Eyre, published in 1847, Shirley, published in 1849 and Villette published in 1853. For instance the novel of Jane Eyre there is a similar life between heroine's novel Jane Eyre and Charlotte. Charlotte was sent to the clergy Daughter's school at Cowan Bridge in Lancashire which she would describe as Lowood school in Jane Eyre. The school was described as a terrible place. The poor conditions of the school permanently her health and physical development as we see in the novel.

Bronte's first of four novels. Jane Eyre was immediately and widely popular, and brought her into London literary circles. The most popular literary form in the Victorian period was the novel, and Jane Eyre illustrates many of its defining characteristics: plain, style, and the narrative of an individual's inner thought. Charlotte Bronte's Jane Eyre depicts the struggle for independence from an oppressive, dominant power structure that places women in exile by virtue of patriarchy.

In 1854, Charlotte married Arthur Bell Nicholls, but died the following year during her pregnancy, on March 31, 1855 in Haworth, Yorkshire, England.

2.3. Symbolism in Jane Eyre

2.3.1. Symbolism in Objects

Bronte in Jane Eyre (1847) used a lot of symbols; based on presenting things and objects with two meanings; the hidden meaning which is the real meaning that stands for the symbols. We as readers of this novel, we should decode these symbols and recognize their real meanings.

2.3.1.1. The Red-room

The red room in Jane Eyre can be signifying as a symbol in this book. The red room represents a punishment and an imprisonment of Jane Eyre. As in the novel; Bronte describes the red-room isolated, abandoned and the old furniture in the room however, the red-room shows us the struggle of Jane Eyre by her patient. As In the chapter one Charlotte wrote: *"Take her away to the red-room, and look her in there, four hands were immediately laid upon me, and I was born up stairs"*(Bronte, 10).

In fact Mr. Reed died in that room, no-body comes there. In that room, the position of Jane Eyre is a pain and fury but at this time Jane has endured the forlorn chamber because this room is a part of the house far from the nursery and it is a solemn because it is rarely entered:

This room was chill, because it seldom had a fire; it was silent, because remote from the nursery and kitchen; solemn, because it was known to be so seldom entered.....Mr. Reed had been dead nine years: it was in this chamber he breathed his last; a sense of dreary consecration had guarded it from frequent intrusion.(Bronte, 20)

In the night, Jane catches a sight of her terrible figure in the mirror and she remembers her kind uncle Reed bringing her to Gateshead after parent`s death and Jane begins to imagination:

I began to recall what I had heard of dead men, troubled in their graves by the violation of their last wished..... revisiting the earth to punish I thought Mr. Reed's spirit, harassed by the wrongs of his sister's child, might quit its abode--whether in the church vault or in the unknown world of the departed--and rise before me in this chamber..... which I deemed the rushing of wings; something seemed near me; I was oppressed, suffocated: endurance broke down; I rushed to the door and shook the lock in desperate effort.(Bronte,25)

In addition to that, the red-room also is a symbol of hatred her aunt`s Jane, cause of Jane`s imprisonment in the red-room has its psychological counterpart in her emotional suppression and marks Jane`s emotional liberation which made it her to say that:

I am glad you are no relation of mine. I will never call you aunt again as long as I live. I will never come to visit you when I am grown up . . . You think I have no feelings and that I can do without one bit of love or kindness; but I cannot live so: and you have no pity. I shall remember how you thrust me back . . . into the red-room. . . . This quotation appears in the chapter 4 (Bronte, 63).

To conclude, the red-room is the chamber which made Jane Eyre the bad memories, fury, fear but at the same time also it made her courageous girl, she has endures the difficulties of the life. On the other hand, Jane finds herself in captivity, imposed upon by society.

2.3.1.2. Fire

Fire is the prominent and the noticeable symbol in the Bronte's novel Jane Eyre, the symbol fire comes in the novel contains more function in that novel; it has strong symbol significance, representing passion, sexual desire and the heat of emotion and feeling. Bronte used symbol fire to give life to Jane's character throughout the novel. The different aspects of Jane's character are shown by the numerous changes in imagery happening during the novel progression. When Jane at Gateshead, we notice how great was her passion. She can not control herself nor can she hide her huge love and pushed John Reed when he intimidated her physically by pulling her hair and holding her shoulders to punish Jane. They imprisoned her in the red-room.

Furthermore, the red-room signifies the color red which represents the color fire and heat, the color of fire and heat, represents passion and fury, as fire embodies this. Here, the symbol of fire, in the form of the red-room with its pillars of mahogany" and "curtains of deep red damask"(Bronte, 19) is used to symbolize, through physical emotion, Jane's excessively passionate nature. Fire symbol use was so direct in this part of the novel. It is known for certain, that "the room was source, because it seldom had a fire"(Bronte, 20); this shows that Jane's punishment for being excessively passionate is an emotional coldness that aims to

control this thoughts adoration and deep love. One may also say that coldness of emotion that seeks to temper this rash passion. According to the chill of the red-room depicts the red-room shows the uselessness of Jane's great love at this stage of her life. She may be furious and in love, but the reaction of Mrs. Reed to this is to fight that sweet hot passion, by closing always and putting a dead end in front of the poor mistreated Jane. That would be the reply of the so strict society which also shows the huge unfair limitation that obliged Mrs. Reed to put Jane in the so-cold red room just because the unlucky Jane wanted to express her passion and her warm feeling of love.

2.3.1.3 .The Moon

The use of the word moon, in Jane Eyre, is a symbol that expresses change. The moon is sometimes watched or described in several scenes throughout the novel when Jane's life changes. For instance when Jane let down Gateshead, when she first sees Rochester and right before Rochester offers her his love.

2.3.1.4. Food

The use of food, throughout the novel, is to show the desire. As an example, when Jane is at Lowood School. Here the food is insufficient, and other young women used to take it from Jane. Examples as they gave her the burnt porridge. However, the hunger, when starving Jane not only was in need of food but also of the need of growing up faster. When finally, everyone got used of her presence at school and she began doing things for herself in painting class, she forgot all about hunger. She did it by herself. She says,

That night, when I went sleeping, I forgot to cook, in imagination the Barmecide supper, of hot roast potatoes, or white bread and new milk, with which I want to enjoy myself and fulfill all my envies and my wishes. My greatest feast was the spectacle of perfect paintings that I watched in the obscurity - all that was the result of my own efforts.(Bronte, 139).

We notice the same event, in Jane's hunger before they welcome her to Moor House. Though she is so slender and weak from lack of food, she has eaten just a little, she is obliged

to beg for food, Jane is happy not because they gave her something to eat but because she met good new friends. She met Diana and Mary as a reward to her patience for being hungry so long, she stood hunger for friendship need.

2.3.1.5. The Chestnut Tree

This so strong tree that resisted to the lighting struck during that. So huge storm is a symbol for the extra-ordinary love between Jane and Rochester. Whole Jane is running in the rain to join Rochester, she sees the tree and writes that it was not destroyed by the lighting ,it made a hole in it and it was separated a lot, the roots held it together. Jane says, "*You did right, you kept close and tight together*"(Bronte, 527)

At the end of the novel, Rochester sees himself as the broken but still strong tree, he says he's destroyed but Jane says the contrary, weeds will soon grow around him and enjoy themselves while feeding on him.

2.3.2 Symbolism in Characters

There are four major symbolic characters in the novel, which are Jane Eyre, Helen Burns, Bretha Mason, and Rochester

2.3.2.1 Jane Eyre

Jane Eyre is a strong woman who falls in love with Rochester. In the novel, Jane Eyre presents a lot of symbols. Firstly, she is a symbol of strength, ability and patience, in the sense, when she is imprisoned in the red-room alone in fury and isolation, accepts her punishment .This shows the great strength because she can easily escape and leave the room but she does not do that. Later on, she fought and managed to become a governess at the Thronfield and there she gives all her efforts Jane develops a romantic fondness for her employer. Hence, this symbol of her fate presents her as a symbol of strength and ability.

Secondly, Jane is also a symbol of passion because she lets her heart controls through behind passion and her passion and affection leads her to fall in love with a Rochester but in her relationship did not succeeded because she discovers her lover has married with the mad woman. Furthermore, Jane endured all the problems which faced her in her life.Finally, Jane married the Rochester; though, he is blinded.

Jane is a symbol of beauty because she knows the real meaning of love, affection and safety which was never left before with her lover. In the chapter 38 charlottes wrote:

I know no weariness of my is Edward`s
society: he knows none of mine, any more that

we each do of the pulsation of the heart that beats in our separate bosoms, consequently, we are ever together to be together is for us to be at once as free as in solitude, as gay as in company we talk to each other is but a more animated and audible thinking. All my confidence is bestowed on him, all his confidence is devoted to me; we are precisely suited in character perfect concord is the result (Bronte, 397).

2.3.2.2. Helen Burns

In Charlotte Bronte's *Jane Eyre*, Helen Burns is a symbol of light side Jane. Helen Burns is presented into the novel only to die of a sickness but not very long after she meets the hero of the novel. Helen Burns, a very sick religious young girl, to whom Jane gave most of her time and thoughts. Helen teaches Jane all what she knew, offered her friendship, love, advice and wisdom. She also told her to obey her elders; she did all that before her death. Bronte described Helen as a peaceful and passionate girl. Helen's death was not the symbol of *Jane Eyre*'s progress; but, it showed the beginning of *Jane Eyre*'s way to maturity.

Helen Burns helped a lot Jane to grow up fast through the novel. Most of the time Helen was rude with Jane and made her nervous but actually taught her a lot about life. For example:

Miss Scatcherd wrote in conspicuous characters on a piece of paste-board the word 'Slattern,' and bound it like a phylactery round Helen's large, mild, intelligent, and benign-looking forehead. She wore it till evening, patient, unresentful, regarding it as a deserved punishment. (Bronte, 70).

There was a weakness in the novel's story hero which does not happen very often, since Helen was a model for Jane to follow, being a mirror for Jane, Helen helped shaping her character and this was very important for her throughout the novel.

We notice another advice that was given to Jane through a lesson taught by Helen. Jane asks Helen "Is it right that such a spot exists in paradise? And that our souls are sent there after death? "I am sure there is a future state; I believe God is fair; I'm not anxious, I trust in God and can die in peace! For me God is a father, a friend I love him. I believe he loves me" (Bronte, 153). Jane was happy and so optimistic for the future after Helen's words. Jane admires Helen so much and loves her; she hugs her tight to tell her that she is everything for her and that she became adult and mature owing to her and her wish is to remain near her till the end. Their last hug was a best minor picture in the novel, because it shows the expectations for Jane's future joy. This prediction of future happiness is given to Jane by her best soulmate, Helen who died happily though she was young and beautiful. It is as if Helen offered her life and happiness to Jane! It seems that Helen Burns is a mirror character for Jane who lives in the boarding school and tries to have a decent new life at Thornfield but it just the contrary since Helen does her best to make of her best friend Jane a model of the happy passionate woman. She lightened her life, gave her wisdom and experience and made of her a mature happy woman, she is strong, lovely, and helpful and she was a mirror for Jane.

2.3.2.3. Bertha Mason

Bertha Mason is a complicated character in Jane Eyre. She prevents Jane from being happy, but she also stimulates her maturity, self understanding and gives her more self-confidence She is a secret personality and her presence in the novel brings more excitement, terror scenes and anticipation to readers. Further, Bertha reminds Rochester of his youth immorality. When imprisoned, Bertha is also considered as a symbol. Some critics have said that she is a representation of British colonialism fear of facing other cultures. Others have seen her as a symbol relating the story of the restricted victorian wife, who is forbidden from leaving the house she could neither travel nor work out of the house and becomes more hopeless and desperate . Within the story, then, Bertha's madness serves as an alarm of caution to Jane of what complete capitulation to Rochester might cause her. Bertha can also be seen as an aspect of Jane's subliminal feelings. Specially, of anger against the tyrannical social gender standard. Jane confesses her love to Rochester, but she is scared of marriage to him She has never told that to anyone or shown it as does Bertha. She is very angry when she thinks that she can be imprisoned like was Bertha. Thereby Bertha tears up the bridal veil, and it is Bertha's existence that actually prevents the marriage from going forward. And, when Thornfield arrives to represent a state of thralldom and subjection for Jane, Bertha burns it. Throughout the novel, Jane tells about what she feels to be igneous she sees her inside scenery as a "ridge of lighted heath" (a sterile mountaintop) (Chapter 4). Bertha represents

the real fire that Jane hides inside her. Bertha shows the feeling that Jane would never dare manifest to tell about.

2.3.2.4. Rochester

As the novel gets along Rochester's character is developed. The writer describes him as romantically but severe throughout chapters 13-14 Jane and Rochester talk seriously with each other. They shared their feeling and secrets and that rarely happens between a boss and his governess. The secrets that Mr Rochester tells with Jane about his love adventures in the past. He has a mistress who has a jealous lover, she convinced him to kill the man. When Jane listens to him telling her about all his sins and how he looked after Adele talks about his perfect romance and personality, she discovered that he remains a good gentleman.

Jane was perplex! Does she love him or not? Rochester was so unusual. He treats her so rudely. Bronte describes Rochester in two ways. Jane tells us that she feels Rochester's presence in a room as the brightest fire. But later she says just the contrary "he was proud, grim and rude."(Bronte, 278) Later in the novel Bronte inverts the love story through Rochester's behaviour, the two characters mix the reader's feeling. In the following chapters nothing changed in the relation between the two main characters. Both of them are not sure of their feelings whenever Jane says something is nice, he just says the opposite. At one point Rochester insists Jane to stay with him when his guests are present to show them that she's from his social level but he makes Jane angry and jealous, when he said that he would marry Blanche while they are playing charades. Jane is strong and she convinced of her love now and she will never stop loving him too and add more expectances.

In this part of the novel, we notice that Rochester behaves strangely after the incident of his friend Mason. First of all none knows why he told only Jane about his secrets, he changed to another different person after his meeting incident his romance and behaviour were so odd and strange. They were a mixture of rudeness and love in the novel.

At the end of the book Rochester has started to make difference between good and bad and recognised he tries to forget his bad side and regrets all what he did to his innocent flower, Jane. He insults her as he used to do, he calls her by pets names "pet lamb."(Bronte, 410) Rochester starts showing his double emotion as Jane says:"he took very quickly, and left it quickly, too."(Bronte, 411) However, though all what he does, Jane does not lose hope. She often looks forward to what she wants him to tell her. Says that he has the romantic temper increases to the top between him and Jane, expecting Rochester to tell Jane about his love at any moment. Rochester says that "I believe I have found the instrument for my use in-"and

then messes up whole temper when he begins talking about Blanche. I bet the reader must have enjoyed this scene a lot, but the poor Jane got angry and upset again as usual.

Before Mr Rochester tells Jane about his intentions, Bronte again creates to a top romantic setting. She describes the surrounding of Thornfield being "green and shorn; the roads white and baked...."(Bronte, 471) Bronte uses a chestnut tree with a circular seat at the base where Rochester confesses his love and hidden feelings to Jane and shows his greatest hidden feelings towards her. I guess the tree is a symbol of the future union, the expected marriage.

When Jane and Rochester have said the truth to each about their true love feelings before he tells her that he loves her, Jane reports some surprising feelings that she feels Rochester opposes to her. She talks about herself saying things like, "Do you think because, I am poor, secret and little, I have no heart?"(Bronte, 482) The feeling that Jane asks Rochester to confess her convinces him to do Rochester is very smooch when he is telling her about his love; he sees in her his own reflection. Rochester treats her as if she is from his social level. When men read this novel earlier they saw themselves superior and belonged to a higher level than women which is an unusual feeling. May be Bronte wanted to show people that he was different while using this strategy in the novel. Throughout this book Bronte builds up Rochester as a contradictory character, when he acts romantically, he was very rude at the same time another kind of this strategy is used when Rochester confesses to Jane about his love. He apologises from God he says, "God forgive me" and "it will expiate."(Bronte, 487)

If Rochester gets married to Jane that will be a great sin for him and this shows how dark and mysterious is Rochester in the novel. We notice that the end of the story is not very far and we wonder what will happen next in the novel if the two characters do get married at this moment of the story. This event is only the end of the chapter where the depressing paralognism is used. The chestnut tree where he told her about his love was struck by lightning. This again connects to the earlier meaning of the tree, but this time it's just the contrary. The union between Rochester and Jane broke before it starts to progress, showing a disastrous sign. When Jane knew what happened to Rochester's first wife, she felt bad and didn't know what will happen later. She actually ignored what to do and how to act. After having thought for a long time, she decided to leave Thornfield and to let down Rochester at the same time. But Rochester refused and told her to stay with him otherwise he'll become a bad man. Even though Rochester knows that he won't be able to marry Jane, he doesn't change his mind.

If Jane remains with Rochester, she would put herself in a lower level and she would never marry Rochester, but she will only be his mistress which was the case of many women at the time.

That would be the opinion of many people who know Rochester's needs and would surely encourage Jane to leave Thornfield. When Jane comes back to Thornfield she finds nothing but a house that turned into ruins and an innkeeper with whom she talked for a long time and asked him so many questions about all what happened there, after she left.

Here, Rochester as a hero who almost died while trying to save the life of his crazy wife. He has always had feelings for her but never wanted to hear about her news. In spite of, his effort to stop Bertha from committing suicide, she continues to do all for that her life comes to an end. Being lonely, Rochester moved to another spot with two of his servants. After having asked so many questions about Mr. Rochester, Jane came back to his house and found him blind with only one arm. She was courageous and told him all her feelings toward him. When hearing all what she had to say, Rochester didn't feel at ease. Here Rochester started speaking about religion a lot, he tells words from the bible and began having compunction, sorrow and regret, he wishes rapprochement "towards his maker. This specific line shows the used alliteration. This might have been done to express Mr. Rochester's feelings.

Regarding religion at that time, we notice that Bronte tries clearly to show that Rochester had done so many sins, he was paying the bill, now; suffering from his handicap, this is also symbolised by the fire, which represents the purificator which makes him ready to welcome Jane's love. The religious imagery is used to give an idea about Mr. Rochester's feelings towards Jane and how strong they were. During the whole novel, readers admired Rochester's Character. He almost convinced everyone that he was a real true lover and a romantic hero who actually deserved Jane's love. Both characters confessed what so strong feelings and love for each other, throughout the novel, despite they suffered so much. I think that true love never runs slowly and easily, there are always troubles and barriers in its way. As Rochester and Jane did not manage to overtake all their obstacles, there should be nothing and none to stop them having a happy life ever after.

Conclusion

In this chapter we attempted to analyze Bronte`s use of several symbols in the novel Jane Eyre such as the red-room, fire, food, Bertha so on. It should be stated that in this novel every point is on purpose, Bronte makes use of characters, objects in the novel to stand for something else in real life, whether art for art sake or to transmitting a message.

General Conclusion

General Conclusion

Throughout this study, we attempt to investigate the use of symbols in the novel *Jane Eyre*; hence, to explore the reasons behind the use of symbols. Also, to look at the different interpretations these symbols stand for.

This study includes two main chapters; the first chapter seeks to examine symbolism and figures of language. The second chapter introduces an overview about Victorian period and Charlotte Bronte, it also represents symbols in the novel.

From our critical reading, Bronte's novel is one of the finest novels; it reflects the real life of Charlotte Bronte. The main point that should be mentioned is that Bronte's symbolism in *Jane Eyre* expresses social and spiritual status at the time of her work.

Bronte uses symbolism in an intelligent way to express her beliefs and her own view on human nature and religion.

Bronte's *Jane Eyre* (1847) is full of symbols. However it would be impossible to deal with all the symbols. The present study has focused more on the major ones with the intention to explain their meanings to add an extra meaning to the novel which is filled with various emotions and feelings.

Eventually, I hope that the outcomes of my study will be appreciated and helpful to students of literature in our university in particular, and the reader in general who would benefit from this device of symbols.

Appendices

Appendix (1)

The red- room

As a result of Jane's misbehavior with her aunt, Mrs. Reed imprisoned Jane for this room, sees no one. Jane expresses the long of these days as she said:

I began to recall what I had heard of dead men, troubled in their graves by the violation of their last wishes, revisiting the earth to punish the perjured and avenge the oppressed; and I thought Mr. Reed's spirit, harassed by the wrongs of his sister's child, might quit its abode—whether in the church vault or in the unknown world of the departed—and rise before me in this chamber. I wiped my tears and hushed my sobs, fearful lest any sign of violent grief might waken a preternatural voice to comfort me, or elicit from the gloom some haloed face, bending over me with strange pity. This idea, consolatory in theory, I felt would be terrible if realized: with all my might I endeavoured to stifle it, endeavoured to be firm. Shaking my hair from my eyes, I lifted my head and tried to look boldly round the dark room; at this moment a light gleamed on the wall. Was it, I asked myself, a ray from the moon penetrating some aperture in the blind? No; moonlight was still, and this stirred; while I gazed, it glided up to the ceiling and quivered over my head. I can now conjecture readily that this streak of light was, in all likelihood, a gleam from a lantern carried by someone across the lawn: but then, prepared as my mind was for horror, shaken as my nerves were by agitation, I thought the swift darting beam was a herald of some coming vision from another world. My heart beat thick, my head grew hot; a sound filled my ears,

Appendix

which I deemed the rushing of wings; something seemed near me; I was oppressed, suffocated: endurance broke down; I rushed to the door and shook the lock in desperate effort. Steps came running along the outer passage; the key turned, Bessie and Abbot entered.(Charlotte, 26).

‘Miss Eyre, are you ill?’ said Bessie. ‘What a dreadful noise! It went quite through me!’ exclaimed Abbot.

‘Take me out! Let me go into the nursery!’ was my cry.

‘What for? Are you hurt? Have you seen something?’ again demanded Bessie.

‘Oh! I saw a light, and I thought a ghost would come.’ I had now got hold of Bessie’s hand, and she did not snatch it from me.

‘She has screamed out on purpose,’ declared Abbot, in some disgust. ‘And what a scream! If she had been in great pain one would have excused it, but she only wanted to bring us all here: I know her naughty tricks.’

‘What is all this?’ demanded another voice peremptorily; and Mrs. Reed came along the corridor, her cap flying wide, her gown rustling stormily. ‘Abbot and Bessie, I believe I gave orders that Jane Eyre should be left in the red-room till I came to her myself.’

‘Miss Jane screamed so loud, ma’am,’ pleaded Bessie.

‘Let her go,’ was the only answer. ‘Loose Bessie’s hand, child: you cannot succeed in getting out by these means, be assured. I abhor artifice, particularly in children; it is my duty to show you that tricks will not answer: you will now stay here an hour longer, and it is only on condition.

Of perfect submission and stillness that I shall liberate you then.’

‘O aunt! have pity! Forgive me! I cannot endure it—let me be punished some other way! I shall be killed if—‘

‘Silence! This violence is all most repulsive:’ and so, no doubt, she felt it. I was a precocious actress in her eyes; she sincerely looked on me as a compound of virulent passions, mean spirit, and dangerous duplicity.

Bessie and Abbot having retreated, Mrs. Reed, impatient of my now frantic anguish and wild sobs, abruptly thrust me back and locked me in, without farther parley. I heard her

Appendix

sweeping away; and soon after she was gone, I suppose I had a species of fit: unconsciousness closed the scene.

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Abstract

The present study attempts to investigate the use of symbols in Charlotte Brontë's novel, *Jane Eyre*. The method followed in this study is analytical. It is used to explore the use of symbols through the analysis of some extracts from the novel. It also sheds light on the author's motives behind the use of symbols. This investigation aims at exploring the Charlotte's use of symbolism the novel, focusing on their meaning and usage. The present work is divided into two chapters. Chapter one presents a theoretical background where the focus is on figures speech, symbolism, and theories of symbolism which is our main concern in this inquiry. Chapter two attempts to apply the linguistic device symbolism in the novel *Jane Eyre*, and to find out the use of symbols in Charlotte's Jane. Charlotte uses symbolism the novel *Jane Eyre* to describe her feelings and emotion towards the events of that time. The study reveals that Brontë used symbols such as food, fire, moon, the red-room, etc. in very successful way. The writer, actually succeeded to express her feelings and emotions towards her society through the excessive use of symbols in *Jane Eyre*.

Key-words: Symbolism ,*Characterisation*, Figures of Speech

تهدف هـ الى البحث في استعمال الرموز في رواية الكاتبة الانجليزية جابن اير والمنهجية المتبعة في هـ هي التحليل يتم استخدامها لاستكشاف الرموز من خلال تحليل بعض المقطعات الرواية. ويهد هـ لاستعمال هذه الـ اهرة اللغوية من خلال هـ

ز مدى استعمال الرموز في الرواية مركزين على المعنى والبنية. هذا الـ فصلين الفصل الاول يقدم والنظريات المتعلقة بالترميز وا ي هو محور دراستنا هذه اما الفصل الثاني يهدف الى الدراسة الاداة اللغوية الرمزية في رواية جين اير للكاتبة برونتي و معرفة كيفية استعمالها استعملت الرموز في روايتها لوصد

هذه الدراسة بعض الرموز المستخدمة في الرواية مثل الغداء القمر النار وغرفة الحمراء. فعلا في التعبير عن المشاعر والعواطف تجاه المجتمع من خلال استخدام " جين اير "

المفتاحية: رمزية, توصيف, الظواهر اللغوية.