

TALE AND REALITY IN P. TRAVERS' BOOKS ABOUT MARY POPPINS

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Series of books about Mary Poppins represents one of the examples of British literary tales. The main idea of P. Travers' tales is the existence of a miracle and the fact that all children tend to forget about it during their growing up period. The relevance of the theme of the presented work is due to the need to study the problems of the series of fairy tales about "Mary Poppins" written by P. Travers.

The purpose of the study is to explore the nature of fairy tales in the Mary Poppins series in terms of ideological content and artistic features.

Material and methods. The study is based on P. Travers' novels here are the following approaches that have been used during the research: descriptive and cultural-historical methods.

Findings and their discussion. In the novels, everything is told from the narrator's point of view, wise and objective one. Having a universal education, she could say about herself in the following words: "My collection of Facts, Information and Data has no equal in the world!" But the highest wisdom for the writer is to show that the sky is a little higher than the eagle flies, that patience is stronger than anything in the world, and that the main knowledge lies not in encyclopedias and textbooks, but in the human heart.

Unrivalled Mary Poppins is shown as adamant, elegant, mocking, generous, she opens to her pupils, Jane and Michael, a remarkable world, fabulous and fair. The story of their relationships is full of magical, interesting, funny and amazing events and yet permeated with sadness, because the miracle does not last long: the statue, which miraculously came to life cannot stay forever and must return to its former place, the language of birds we can also understand only to the first tooth, and fly only to the first sad thought. And Mary Poppins knows that one day she will have to leave house N17.

As well as in L. Carroll's "Alice in Wonderland" the series of fairy tales about Mary Poppins revels a lot of English folk songs and poems, fairy tales and sayings. One of them is the old English saying "a Cat can look at a king". Based on this saying P. Travers deploy in the whole narrative of the tale.

The writer tries to demonstrate the ordinary life of modern England with its troubles and difficulties from the perception of the child. At the same time, there are also problems appearing in the family, which is inherent in English children's literature.

Pamela Travers initially agreed with the views that the book "Mary Poppins" was written under the influence of the novel about Peter Pan. In both works, the conflict of childhood and adulthood takes place upon the readers. But

if Barry James decided to leave this conflict unsettled, as Pen remains a teenager forever, and Wendy grew up and completely forgot about him. Travers solved the problem in a rather extraordinary way. The magical worldview inherent in childhood and the perception of life remains in Mary Poppins, but she is very deeply hidden under the imperturbable appearance of a confident and adult woman. As befits a good-natured nurse, Mary Poppins looks stern and conservative. On any interrogations of children she or grins, or covers up for superficial statements: «I'm not an encyclopedia», «If you know too much you will get old too soon», «One more word, and I...», «there are reasons for that». Nevertheless, behind this unattainable gaze, a true sorceress is masked. It has been repeatedly noted that Mary Poppins, in any case, does not work magic openly in public. Magic, if the very, is beginning to happen everywhere, far she comes. Despite this, Poppins steadily denies any involvement in the miracles that happen.

In P. Travers's book, there are several heroes from folk art such as the cat which looks at the king, or the cow from the folk song, which leapt the stars. Almost the entire magic happen fully in-style English eccentrics, for example, two fingers, which Miss Corey breaks off as it turns out were lollipops, people get caught on baitfish and camping on.

The moral choice of the main character is one of the relevant issue raised by the author: why exactly a nurse is responsible for children not another person with a different profession? There is nothing strange in the fact that the choice fell on the nanny. As we know, in that era, for every white family with many children it was more the canon than a necessity. It is because of this that the influence of the nurse in the initial stage of the child's upbringing was much higher than the influence of the mother and father.

But for the Banks family to hire a nanny is not an easy task, as they have a hard period because of the banking crisis. But not for nothing that Mr. banks says to his wife: "Choose, my dear, one of two things: either a clean, pretty, new house or four children. I cannot provide you with both" [1, p. 23].

Conclusion. We can conclude that using the genre of "story-tale", P. Travers not only gives her characters the ability to create magic but also generates in readers a belief in a miracle, in the possibility of the existence of this miracle in the real world – primarily in the world of children. All the miracles performed by Mary Poppins have value only in the world of children, their fantasies and dreams.

1. Travers, P. L. Mary Poppins / P. L. Travers. – M., IRIS-PRESS, 2009. –144 p.