

CHOIBEKOVA N.T.

*J. Balasagyn KNU, Bishkek*

**Чойбекова Н.Т.**

*КНУ им. Ж.Баласагы, Бишкек*

## HUMOR IN F.S. FITZGERALD'S WORK "THE GREAT GATSBY"

**С.Фицджеральдын «Улуу Гетсби» эмгегиндеги юмордун берилиши**

**Юмор в произведении С.Фицджеральда «Великий Гетсби»**

***Annotation:** the author of this article tries in S.Fitzgerald "novel "The Great Gatsby" to do attempts definition of expressions of social inequalities of American society at the end of 20 years through: metaphor, pun, satire, dramatic irony, hyperbole are considered as a stylistic devices of humor expressions.*

***Аннотация:** автором статьи исследуется воплощение социального неравенства в американском обществе в начале 20 века через стилистические способы выражения юмора: метафору, пун, сатиру, гиперболу драматическую иронию в произведении С. Фицджеральда «Великий Гетсби».*

***Аннотация:** автор С. Фицджеральдын «Улуу Гетсби» аттуу чыгармасы менен 20 кылымдын башындагы америкалык коомдун социалдык теңсиздик көрүнүштөрүн аныктоо аракетин жасайт. Юмор: метафора, пун, сатира, гипербола, драмалык иронияны стилистикалык ыкмалар аркылуу изилдейт.*

***Keywords:** humor, satire, pun, stylistic device, dramatic irony, hyperbole.*

***Ключевые слова:** юмор; сатира; пун; стилистический прием; драматическая ирония; гипербола.*

***Негизги сөздөр:** юмор, сатира, пун, стилистикалык ыкма.*

The way these people live is represented in the novel by Fitzgerald, who emphasizes the Nick Carraway's life a single stockbroker living in New York, and shows us the world of the rich through his point of view.

—Significant writers in the Twenties were above all dedicated to the imposing task of pointing out the error of living in terms of obsolete values—however useful those values might have been in the past.|| Through Carraway's eyes, he uses different styles of satire to describe these characters throughout the text. Satire is seen, as humor, irony, exaggeration, and use of sarcasm to criticize other people's actions and lighten the situation in this book.

—*Satire*” is defined as the use of humor, irony, exaggeration, or ridicule to expose and criticize people's stupidity or vices, particularly in the context of contemporary politics and other topical issues [1]. The Great

Gatsby creates elements of satire within the narrative by using sarcasm, humor and irony.

In *The Great Gatsby*, F. Scott Fitzgerald utilizes many universal themes to make a classic novel, explaining the life in 1920's. In the novel, well-off citizens live everyday without care, celebrate every weekend by getting drunk and overall just live a reckless lifestyle. Everybody knows that all works which have written by F.Scott Fitzgerald were very autobiographic and of course they were far from comic.

As we know the main action were happened after the Great War I, the time of jazz and incredible reach men. In the beginning, it's ironic/amusing how Nick describes to the reader the invitation he received for Gatsby's party

—*...the honor should be entirely Gatsby's, it said if I would attend his little party that night*" [2], this is ironic/amusing because the party that Nick does attend is far from 'little'.

Halfway through Chapter 3, it is endearing and possibly funny how when first introduced to Owl Eyes, Owl Eyes tries to convince Nick how Gatsby's books are real, it is endearing because of the determination he uses to convince Nick even though Nick would be happy to believe him as he shows little interest in the books

In the book —*The Great Gatsby*|| we have lots of humor and irony and sarcasm—the elements of humor. There are all over the place, since the beginning of the book. The kind of irony that is used on *The Great Gatsby* is Dramatic irony. That is used on the book for mostly every character. But mostly it focuses on Gatsby, for example Gatsby is a really rich billionaire of all time and has party's every day just to see if his love would come and reunite with him.

Gatsby spends all of his time and most of his life of pursuing something which is not worth the effort. We also have a yellow car owned by Gatsby that supposedly it represents a symbol of hope and dream of American Dream so it's ironic that the symbol of hope and dream ultimately leads to Gatsby's death. We also know that Gatsby has the American Dream based on money getting you happiness, yet Gatsby is extremely rich but not satisfied so ironic. Humor is used in the book of *The Great Gatsby* several times but not so often.

For example we can see it when Daisy says Tom on Gatsby's party: *"...Go ahead, answered Daisy genially, and if you want to take down any addresses here my little Gold pencil* [3]. In other words Daisy is flippantly giving permission for Tom to talk to other girls and being with who, ever

Tom wants to be with. Just as Daisy is now able and free to talk with Gatsby which is something both Gatsby and Daisy want to do. Tom has no intention of doing this, so basically the comment is meant to taunt Tom. We can agree that it was a humor but here we should say that this moment we can understand like sarcasm because we understand that Tom doesn't really love Daisy and it weren't the first time between them.

Also we see humor of situation (dramatic irony) when George Wilson thinks Myrtle Wilson, his wife is having an affair but does not know that his wife is having an affair with his friend Tom Buchanan.

Or "*...I just remembered that today's my birthday. I was thirty. Before me stretched the portentous menacing road of a new decade*" [4].

Here the statement to be a little humorous. Nick doesn't even realize that it is his own birthday. He was so caught up in the drama around him that he forgot about his birthday. And when he remembers, we aren't excited at all. Remembering his birthday only seemed to add to his misery. Turning thirty was another miserable event to add to his life. I thought it was funny at first, but then I felt sorry for Nick. It is sad that he views his birthday with melancholy.

Also we can find the pun which comes in the closing paragraphs of chapter six, when Nick recounts Gatsby's tale of his first kiss with Daisy (another flower). It happens

—*One autumn night, five years ago... "Then he kissed her. At his lips —touch she blossomed for him like a flower and the incarnation was complete*

The pun, we think, is incarnation as turning to flesh and a kind of blooming, turning into a flower or in-carnation. The pun drives home the futility of Gatsby wedding

—his unutterable visions to her [Daisy's] perishable breath|| *since, as that phrase "perishable breath" [5] indicates, throughout the novel, Daisy is associated with the ephemeral and insubstantial. She is all voice and all breath: the last person who can turn dreams to vital flesh. (Daisy stands outside these natural cycles to some extent, protected by her money: —the youth and mystery that wealth imprisons and preserves.)*) The contrast of the autumnal weather with the imagery of flowers and blooming only reinforces the unnaturalness (the unseasonality) of this incarnation. It reminds us that flowers wilt and die. As will Gatsby and his dreams.

And also we can find the hyperbole in the beginning of Chapter V, Nick returns home to find "*the whole corner of the peninsula [of West Egg] was blazing with light*" [6].

His first reaction is to feel alarm, thinking that the light comes from his own burning house. He then realizes the blaze of light comes from Gatsby's house that is "*lit from tower to cellar.*" When Nick encounters Gatsby, Nick refers to the house and describes it in hyperbole: "Your place looks like the world's fair." Nick's choice of words emphasizes the size, expanse, and showy grandeur of Gatsby's mansion, lighting up the dark night and the surrounding area.

Surprise we can find in Chapter 7 She has a husband and child, a three year old daughter named Pammy. The reality is that Daisy is a very negligent parent who sees her child as an accessory or else simply ignores her because it is convenient for her. In Chapter 7, Daisy uses Pammy like an interesting accessory. She brings her out to show her off to her party guests with superficial intentions. She does not truly care about Pammy or even think about her very much. The most profound thing she says about her is: "*I hope she'll be a fool,*" she says, "*that's the best thing a girl can be in this world, a beautiful little fool.*" [7].

Daisy knows the reality of women's roles in her society. She knows her daughter will one day be just as objectified as she is herself. She believes that the best thing for Pammy is to be objectified.

Authors often do the same thing in their writing. In literature this is referred to as satire. Authors use **satire** to bring the reader's attention to different aspects of society through deliberate exaggeration and criticism, highlighting the ridiculousness of things that may otherwise go unnoticed.

"The Great Gatsby" is peopled with beautiful and wealthy characters -the type emulated by the middle class. Even the novel's level-headed narrator, Nick Carraway, is impressed that his former Yale classmate, Tom Buchanan, could afford to ship his polo ponies from the Midwest to New York. Nick admits,

*"...It was hard to realize that a man in my own generation was wealthy enough to do that..."* [8].

Nick is charmed by his lovely cousin Daisy, Tom's wife, but suspects her charm is superficial. Nick ultimately realizes that Daisy and Tom, despite their wealth, are morally bankrupt, "careless people" who "...smashed up things and creatures and then retreated back into their money..." Fitzgerald satirizes what he views as the habit of privileged people acting as though ordinary people, such as Myrtle Wilson, don't matter.

What Gatsby discovers is that his wealth, his attempts to master some measure of sophistication and taste - even his exemplary service in the war - are not enough. Fitzgerald satirizes the upper class's distinction not

only between the rich and the poor but also between new money and old money. In the words of Tom Buchanan, Gatsby is "...*Mr. Nobody from Nowhere...*" [9].

Fitzgerald satirizes the bigotry that existed, even among apparently educated people, in the 1920s with his reference to a book Tom Buchanan boasts of reading in the beginning of the novel. Tom is presented as an Ivy League-educated man, yet he takes as fact the prediction made in a book titled

*"The Rise of the Colored Empires," that "...if we don't look out, the white race will be -- will be utterly submerged. It's all scientific stuff. It's been proved..."* Tom again makes a racist statement toward the end of the novel, linking *"...intermarriage between black and white..."* with other examples of societal deterioration [10].

Here are more examples of satire:

*"The bar is in full swing, and floating rounds of cocktails permeate the garden outside, until the air is alive with chatter and laughter, and casual innuendo and introductions forgotten on the spot, and enthusiastic meetings between women who never knew each other's names" [11].*

*"I'll tell you a family secret he used to be the silver polisher...in New York that had a silver service for two hundred people. He had to polish it...until finally it began to affect his nose"*

*»It's really his wife that's keeping them apart. She's a Catholic and they don't believe in divorce.' Daisy was not a Catholic, and I was a little shocked at the elaborateness of the lie"[12].*

*"Somebody told me they thought he killed a man once.' . 'I don't think it's so much that. it's more that he was a German spy during the war' " [13].*

So far, the novel appears to be satirical. Terms of mockery are often used when describing the affluent party-goers of the West and East Egg. The above quote especially reveals this tone by implying that these people are acting fake. They smile and greet one another enthusiastically when they really don't know who each other are. Also, several times Nick accounts people gossiping. The last three quotes are all examples of this. Because gossip is so often mentioned, a tone of satire is always associated with it. It seems to be a part of a major theme that hasn't fully developed yet.

Many people who read *The Great Gatsby* are unaware that it's filled with satire. F. Scott Fitzgerald's novel emphasizes the various problems that emerged during the Roaring Twenties. Post-World War I, the 1920s was considered a decade of excess. Americans wanted to put the war behind

them and went out of their way to enjoy themselves. Meanwhile, changing social norms, Prohibition, and the rise of 'new money' flavored the decade. It was the time of Great depression.

Throughout the novel, F. Scott Fitzgerald satirizes the **Leisure Class**, America's social elite who had more money than they knew what to do with. Characters like Tom and Daisy Buchanan and Jordan Baker represent the flaws with the excessively privileged. Because they have so much money, they behave without consequences. The rules simply don't apply to them; after all, they can buy themselves out of trouble.

They also believe that their money makes them superior to people who have less. This is evidenced by the Buchanans' treatment of the Wilsons. Tom looks down his nose at George Wilson; he's a lowly mechanic just struggling to get by. Although George's wife, Myrtle, is Tom's mistress, she's also expendable. Even when Daisy kills Myrtle with Gatsby's car (by accident!), she seemingly feels no remorse. Equally, Tom isn't too affected by the event either. In fact, the couple simply picks up and moves somewhere else to avoid the problem. If that's not meant to represent smug superiority, I'm not sure what does!

After World War I, American consumerism was on the rise. New technologies and products made the American way of life easier. Beyond the simple convenience of modernity, many Americans felt victim to the evils of **materialism**, the idea that owning things is more important than anything else (even spirituality and morality).

F. Scott Fitzgerald emphasizes this point through Gatsby's parties. Hundreds of uninvited guests flock to Gatsby's home every weekend to enjoy these massive shindigs. They drink and eat to excess and enjoy all of the amenities that Gatsby has to offer, despite the fact that the majority of them have never even met their host.

Gatsby's parties and his life in general, represent an even deeper issue. Everything that Gatsby has done and achieved was to whisk Daisy away from her husband Tom. When Gatsby and Daisy first met, he was convinced that he was not good enough for her. He didn't have the money or status that a person of her breeding should be with. As a result, Gatsby's singular focus is to make a fortune and buy all sorts of fancy things to impress Daisy. For Gatsby, material possessions equate to love and the only way Daisy could possibly love him is if he buys her things [14].

All of the above suggests that the author was able to use a variety of sub-genres to express humor in the work. But we are decided to consider more closely the irony and sarcasm.

Humor always causes laughter. What is funny must come as a sudden clash of the positive and the negative. In this respect irony can be likened to humor. But the function of irony is not confined to producing a humorous effect. It rather expresses a feeling of irritation, displeasure, pity or regret. A word used ironically may sometimes express very subtle almost imperceptible nuances of meaning [15].

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