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ANALYSIS OF "THE BLACK CAT" BY EDGAR ALLAN POE (VIOLENCE OR SUPERSTITION?)

Annotation. Modern literature is branched with different genres and most popular and best sellers are written in detective and horror mixed with mystery; mental appearance; societal issues which describe human characteristic features and its circumstances related to the action and behavior of people. The present article analyses short story written by prominent American writer, "Father of horror and detective fiction" Edgar Allan Poe- "The Black Cat" and author's aptitude of describing scenery and making the reader to be excited of happenings in the story.

Key words: Gothic, mystery, horror, societal issues, psychological decay, violence, abuse.

EDGAR ALLAN POE "QORA MUSHUK" TAHLILI (Zo'ravonlikmi yoki xurofotmi?)

Annotatsiya. Zamonaviy adabiyot turli janrlar bilan tarvaqaylab ketgan va eng mashhur va eng yaxshi sotuvchilar detektiv va dahshatda sir bilan aralashgan holda yozilgan; aqliy ko'rinish; insonning o'ziga xos xususiyatlarini va uning odamlarning harakati va xatti-harakatlari bilan bog'liq holatlarini tavsiflovchi ijtimoiy masalalar. Ushbu maqolada taniqli amerikalik yozuvchi, "dahshat va detektiv fantastika otasi" Edgar Allan Po- "qora mushuk" tomonidan yozilgan qisqa hikoya va muallifning manzaralarni tasvirlash va o'quvchini hikoyadagi voqealardan hayajonlantirish qobiliyati tahlil qilingan.

Kalit so'zlar: gotika, sir, dahshat, ijtimoiy muammolar, psixologik parchalanish, zo'ravonlik, suiiste'mol.

АНАЛИЗ "ЧЕРНОЙ КОШКИ" ЭДГАРА АЛЛАНА ПО (Насилие или суеверие?)

Аннотация. Современная литература изобилует различными жанрами, и самые популярные и продаваемые бестселлеры написаны в жанрах детектива и ужасов, смешанных с мистикой; психического облика; социальных проблем, которые описывают характерные черты человека и его обстоятельства, связанные с действиями и поведением людей. В настоящей статье анализируется рассказ выдающегося американского писателя, "Отца жанра ужасов и детективной литературы" Эдгара Аллана По "Черный кот", а также умение автора описывать обстановку и заставлять читателя переживать события, описанные в рассказе.

Ключевые слова: готика, мистерия, хоррор, социальные проблемы, психологический упадок, насилие, абьюзивность.

Edgar Allan Poe is a famous American writer with unusual style of writing of those attractive Gothic, mysterious, psychological deterioration of humanity and detective fiction of all periods of the world literature. Poe created number of stories including "The Black Cat", "The Tell-Tale Heart", "The House of Usher" and "The Cask of Amontillado" which deals with themes of violence, madness, revenge and psychological decay and tragic end.

His works inspired many other writers of the literary world to create horror and psychological implications with description of human violence and abuse pointing to societal

52 issues of every community over the world. "The Black Cat" is one of those stories which caused inspiration of other writers to create in the same style.

Literature review. "The Monkey's Paw" by W.W. Jacobs published in 1902, also delves into supernatural themes, with a dark consequence resulting from a seemingly innocuous act. Like the black cat in Poe's story, the monkey's paw represents an object that brings disaster, leading to tragic outcomes. Another story written by Shirley Jackson (1948) "The lottery" or "The adventures of James Harris" was published in "The New Yorker" and similar to "The Black Cat", it shares the psychological tension and disturbing violence. The story explores how human nature can lead to cruelty and how societal norms and pressures contribute to horrific events. Inspired by Poe's "The Black Cat" and "The Tell-Tale-Heart", Charlotte Perkins Gilman wrote "The Yellow Wallpaper" that explores themes of mental illness and guilt. The narrator in "The Yellow Wallpaper" is driven mad by her isolation and treatment, similar to how Poe's narrator descends into madness. Both stories show how psychological distress and the oppression of women can lead to violent or tragic outcomes. Flannery O'Connor's story, "A Good Man Is Hard to Find" involves a character whose violent actions lead to their downfall. Both stories show how human beings can be shaped by their flaws—whether it's the narrator's alcoholism and violence in Poe's story or the grandmother's selfishness and lack of self-awareness in O'Connor's. "The Black Dog" by Stephen King also narrates about an animal (a dog in this case) that has ominous and supernatural significance. Like the black cat in Poe's story, the black dog represents a dark omen and is tied to themes of guilt and the paranormal. Oscar Wilde's famous novel, "The Picture of Dorian Gray" also examines the psychological and moral degradation of a character. Dorian Gray's descent into corruption and violence, influenced by vanity and indulgence, mirrors the way the narrator of "The Black Cat" is consumed by his darker impulses and moral decline. These stories, while varied in their narrative style and setting, all share important themes with Poe's "The Black Cat"—the exploration of human nature, guilt, madness, and violence, as well as the supernatural or psychological deterioration that leads to catastrophic consequences.

Discussion and results. The present article analyses one of the most horrible short stories by Poe, "The Black Cat" which addresses several though the most prominent one is domestic violence and its psychological implications. Additionally, terms of human violence and mixture of superstitious beliefs are selected as recognition of social issues are portrayed in the story.

Alcoholism and Abuse. The narrator in the story is an unreliable character who, over time, becomes increasingly violent and abusive. His descent into cruelty is fueled by alcoholism, which exacerbates his anger issues. His drinking causes him to mistreat both his wife and his pets, particularly the black cat. The story highlights how substance abuse can lead to moral decay, loss of control, and harm to those around an individual, especially in domestic settings.

Domestic Violence. The narrator's abusive behavior toward his wife and animals is a central theme. His cruel actions, including the physical abuse of his wife and the killing of the cat, reflect a broader issue of domestic violence, where individuals in positions of power (often men) inflict harm on those they should care for, including family members and pets. The violence in the story underscores the terrifying impact of unchecked aggression and emotional instability within households.

Mental Illness and the Breakdown of Morality. The narrator's descent into madness suggests the consequences of untreated mental illness and the potential for psychological distress to manifest in violent behavior. His internal struggle and deteriorating mental state can be seen as a commentary on mental health issues that were not understood or properly treated during Poe's time. This deterioration leads him to commit heinous acts, showing how psychological breakdowns can contribute to social problems.

Superstition and its Effects on Behavior. The story also explores the influence of superstition. The narrator's obsession with the black cat, as well as his belief in its supernatural powers, illustrates how irrational beliefs and fears can guide a person's actions. Superstition in the story feeds into the narrator's destructive path and may symbolize the dangers of unreasoned beliefs in society, which can cause harm and lead to irrational decisions.

Furthermore, following polysemantic terms used in the story expresses the writer's aptitude of describing above problems mentioned in fusion.

Polysemantic Words	Violence or Superstition	Definition
Violence	Human Violence	The use of physical force to harm someone, causing injury or damage.
Atrocity	Human Violence	An extremely wicked or cruel act, typically involving physical violence, often against innocent people or animals.
Fury	Human Violence	Wild or violent anger; intense force or violence often associated with uncontrollable emotions or actions.
Hang	Human Violence	To kill or execute someone by suspending them by the neck, typically as a punishment or method of execution.
Blow	Human Violence	A powerful strike or hit, typically causing injury or harm.
Murder	Human Violence	The unlawful premeditated killing of one human being by another.
Terror	Human Violence	Extreme fear, often inducing paralysis or overwhelming panic, sometimes caused by violent actions.
Wrath	Human Violence	Intense, vengeful anger or rage that might drive a person to commit violent acts.
Devil	Superstition	A supernatural being often associated with evil, temptation, and wrongdoing, representing evil forces in superstition or religion.
Fiend	Superstition	A demonic or evil spirit, often associated with malevolence, in folklore and superstition.
Witch	Superstition	A person (often a woman) believed to have magical powers, particularly evil ones, commonly associated with folklore, paganism, and fear of the supernatural.
Phantasm	Superstition	A ghost or apparition, often feared, believed to be a manifestation of the dead or supernatural forces.
Gallows	Superstition	A structure used for executions, particularly by hanging, often seen as an ominous symbol of death in superstition and folklore.
Chimera	Superstition	A mythical creature or illusion, often symbolizing false or impossible fears that seem real but are unreal in nature, typical in ancient folklore.
Soul	Superstition	The immaterial essence or spirit of a person, often thought to be eternal and connected to supernatural beliefs regarding life and death.

This table includes words used to describe violent actions and those that invoke superstitions or supernatural beliefs. The writer's talent in description of place, action, feelings and horrible senses to make the reader feel complete scenery of the story by those words makes the work attractive and thrilling.

Conclusion. Edgar Allan Poe with his breathtaking fantasy of writing made him "A father of horror and detective" fiction of all periods of literature. Impressed by his "The Black Cat", "The Tell-Tale Heart" and other stories, W. W. Jacobs, Shirley Jackson, Charlotte Perkins Gilman, Flannery O'Connor, Stephen King and Oscar Wilde created their stories about violent and abusive actions; madness and psychological deterioration of human being. Many researches have been done about literary analysis of Poe's works and his moral about life, societal issues and global problems expressed in his works discussed by readers. Looking over the "The Black Cat", we

- 54 came across mainly literary analysis of the work while these works serve as prosperous linguistic data for comparative analysis with other languages literary works.

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