

THE INTERPRETATION OF URBANONYMS IN THE NOVEL “JENNY GERHARDT” BY AMERICAN WRITER THEODORE DREISER

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DOI: 10.5958/2249-7137.2022.00395.0

ABSTRACT

This article discusses the role of urbanonyms in the example of a novel, the meaning and historical origin of city names, and their impact on the image of the city and its population. The article also analyzes the lexical, phonetic and methodological studies of urban names in the work. There is information about the role of urbanonyms in the achievement of the author's goal to the reader, through which the writer directs the movement of the characters of the work to a certain address.

KEYWORDS: *Urbanonyms, Artwork, City Life, Protagonist, Depiction, Major Center, Mean.*

INTRODUCTION

Any writer appeals to urbanonyms right from the first pages of a work. The writer describes the names of the cities, sometimes as the artistic heroes of the work, and sometimes as the place that causes the events of the work. Urbanonyms play a role in reaching the reader's goal. Through them, the writer directs the movement of the characters of the work to a certain address, places the events in space. The presence of toponyms in the text of the work of art depends primarily on the ideological content and theme of the work. In particular, it is natural that urban names are widely used in works depicting city life. We know that usually many works begin with a description of an event, the place where an event takes place. This place can be a village, a country or a city. According to A.V. Superanskaya, proper nouns "find their place in the general artistic structure of the work and sometimes become a source of additional information that is not noticeable at the first acquaintance with the text." [1] Urbanonyms are a branch of toponymy, on which the famous scientists William Bright, Robert Ramsay, George Stewart, Alexandra Superanskaya, Vladimir Nikonov conducted scientific work.

Urbanonyms help the writer to more vividly describe the experiences of the protagonist in this or that city, the city in which he depicts the social status of the protagonist and the place of activity. In English fiction one can find many works depicting cities and urban objects. An example of this is the work of American author Theodore Dreiser, Jenny Gerhardt. Theodore Dreiser is a realist writer who lived and worked in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. He contributed to the rise of critical realism in American literature. The main reason for this was that he himself was an artist from the oppressed people. [2] At the center of Jenny Gerhardt's work is the fate of Jenny, a girl with a wonderful heart. Jenny strives to make a living as a well-intentioned, emotionally flawless, honest person with her honest work. However, the evil forces also take the

fate of this pure girl into their whirlpool, violating her pure love. Jenny Gerhardt is one of the author's best works on human destiny in a world of inequality. The author's depiction of the United States further enriched the course of events in the work. The fact that the names of streets and places are lined up gives a special spirit to the theme of the novel - the constant movement of objects, various situations, the constant change of situations make a special impression on the reader. [3]

In addition, T. Dreiser likes to remind the characters of accommodation over and over again. For example, the city of Columbus, where Jenny lived with her family, the famous and wealthy city of Cincinnati, where her lover Lester Kane was born and raised, and the city where her brother moved, Cleveland, can be found in many places.

“Columbus, being the State capital, and having a population of fifty thousand and a fair passenger traffic, was a good field for the hotel business, and the opportunity had been improved; so at least the Columbus people proudly thought”. [4, p.4]

The city of Columbus, the capital of Ohio, is named in the honor of the famous explorer Christopher Columbus. The tall buildings given in the example, the image of the state legislature, hotels, businessmen, the abundance of opportunities in a big city like Columbus indicate that the city is very rich and famous.

“The father of this unfortunate family, William Gerhardt, was a man of considerable interest on his personal side. He had set forth for America, the land of promise. Arrived in this country, he had made his way, by slow stages from New York to Philadelphia, and thence westward, working for a time in the various glass factories in Pennsylvania. In one romantic village of this new world he had found his heart's ideal. With her, a simple American girl of German extraction, he had removed to Youngstown, and thence to Columbus”. [4, p.51]

This passage tells the story of how Jenny's father, William Gerhardt, came to America and traveled from state to state. The first name of New York was New Amsterdam, and when England took control in 1664, King James II of England named it New York in honor of the Duke of York- York County. Philadelphia is one of the largest and most populous cities in Pennsylvania. The city was founded in 1682 by William Penn. It is called the "Brotherhood City" in Greek because it is home to many different nationalities. The state of Pennsylvania is named after William Penn's father, and from Latin Penn Sylvania means "forested country."

“When, however, customers of shippers complained that cars from the Pennsylvania fields lost thousands of pounds in transit to Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago, and other points, detectives were set to work. Other families in Columbus—many of them—were constantly doing the same thing, but Sebastian happened to be seized upon as the Columbus example. Bass was no sooner in Cleveland than the marvel of that growing city was sufficient to completely restore his equanimity of soul and to stir up new illusions as to the possibility of rehabilitation for himself and his family. It was a wonderful city, and growing very fast. It was thus that the new life appealed to him”. [4, p.63-64]

In the play, Sebastian, the family's eldest son, works as an apprentice in a wagon-building workshop, while being caught stealing coal to help a helpless family while transporting coal from Pennsylvania to Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago and other cities. By the time Bass went to Cleveland, the city was growing by the hour, not by the day. In a letter to Bass Jenny, Cleveland

writes that it is a wonderful city, with theaters and beautiful streets. Cleveland is the second largest city in Ohio and was founded in 1796 in honor of General Moses Cleaveland (Moisey Cleveland). However, as a result, the city was renamed Cleveland because the letter "a" was dropped in one of the local newspapers.

“One day there arrived from Cincinnati a certain Lester Kane, the son of a wholesale carriage builder of great trade distinction in that city and elsewhere throughout the country, who used to visit this house frequently in a social way”. [4, p.119]

Cincinnati was founded in 1788 by John Cleves Simms and Colonel Robert Patterson. Topographer John Filson (also author of "The Adventures of Colonel Daniel Bowen") describes the city of Losantville as derived from four words in different languages and "a city on the banks of the Liking River." "L" is the first letter of the name of the Liking River, the Latin "mouth", the Greek opposite - on the contrary, the French "city".

In 1790, Arthur Sein Claire, governor of the Northwest Territory, renamed the city Cincinnati in honor of the Cincinnati Society of which he was a member. Nowadays, Cincinnati, and Ohio in general, is statistically the largest number of U.S. Independence War veterans, and land has been allocated to them as a token of gratitude from that state. In the early 19th century, Cincinnati was the first American city in the center of the country to compete with the east coast cities in size and wealth. As the first major continental city, it is sometimes referred to as the “first pure American city”.

“Chicago was more central than Cincinnati. Buyers from the West and country merchants could be more easily reached and dealt with there. It would be a big advertisement for the house, a magnificent evidence of its standing and prosperity”. [4, p.182]

In this passage, Chicago is said to be a much larger center than Cincinnati. Chicago is rightly considered the economic, industrial, transportation, and cultural capital of the Midwest. Unofficially, it is sometimes referred to as the "Second City" and the "Windy City." The name Chicago was originally translated as "shikaakwa", meaning "wild onion or garlic" when translated from Miami-Illinois by the local Indians, and was later changed to Chicago by the French. [5, p.263]

“Martha and her husband had gone to Boston. Her address was a little suburb named Belmont, just outside the city. William was in Omaha, working for a local electric company. Veronica was married to a man named Albert Sheridan, who was connected with a wholesale drug company in Cleveland”. [4, p.228]

In the above passage the author appeals to the urbanonyms to make it clear that the protagonist's sisters and brother live apart from their father's house, are married, and have found their place in life. [6]

“Jennie heard with a desperate ache the description of a route which she and Lester had taken more than once, slowly and melodiously emphasized. "Detroit, Toledo, Cleveland, Buffalo, and New York." There were cries of trains for "Fort Wayne, Columbus, Pittsburg, Philadelphia, and points East," and then finally for "Indianapolis, Louisville, Columbus, Cincinnati, and points South." The hour had struck.” [4, p.394]

In this passage at the end of the play, the writer uses more than 10 urbanonyms, and the protagonist chooses the exact railway station in order to remember every happy moment she spent with her late lover, the cities she visited. [7-12]

In short, the presentation of urban names in Theodore Dreiser's "Jenny Gerhardt" will enrich the content of the work and reach the reader more deeply. Through the names of the cities in the work, it is possible not only to gain a deeper understanding of the events of the work, but also to understand for what purpose the author used urban names. [13,14]

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