



Aspects of Novel

- **Novel is a long prose narrative.**
- **Depiction of the social, political, and personal realities of life with clarity and in aesthetic terms.**
- **Etymologically the novel means ‘story of something new’.**

The Shorter Oxford Dictionary defines

Novel as :

“a fictitious prose narrative of considerable length in which characters and actions representative of real life are portrayed in a plot of more or less complexity”.

An Introduction to the Study of English Literature :
W. H. Hudson

**Chief Elements Of Any Work Of Prose Fiction
Whether It Is Small Or Great Or Good Or Bad:**

Plot,

Characters,

Time And Place Of Action,

Style,

A Stated Or Implied Philosophy Of Life

E. M. Forster *Aspects Of The Novel*

Elements Of The Novel

The Major Elements Of The Novel

Plot:

Plot : Artistic arrangement of events or actions in the life of characters in the novel.

Action : Both the physical and verbal activities of the characters.

Cause : Some type of conflict, generally between man and man, man and nature, man and social or religious conventions, or man to himself.

Conflict is revealed at the exposition, or beginning of the story and is developed during the complication, which is the longest section.

Climax: the conflict reaches its turning point, and its solution becomes clear.

Final part of the story: **the resolution**: Conflict is settled.

Aspects of the Novel : E. M. Forster

- **Difference between plot and story...**
- **Basic difference between them is the sense of causality.**

Plot is concerned with the emotional effects of the incidents.

Plot is defined as “a structure of actions aiming at emotional and artistic effects”.

Types of plot:

Tragic plot, comic plot, romantic plot, simple plot, complex plot, etc.

Tragic story:

- the protagonist typically experiences suffering and a downfall,
- Plot almost always includes a reversal of fortune, from good to bad or happy to sad. ...
- The transformation occurs when events in the story help them see a better world-view.

Tragedy is a genre of story in which

- a hero is brought down by his/her own flaws, usually by ordinary human flaws – greed, over-ambition, or even an excess of love, honor, or loyalty. ...
- Usually, the plot follows a gradual descent from greatness to destruction.

A comic plot is humorous.

funny or satirical in orientation, regardless of the assumed seriousness of the topics addressed.

Many well-known authors have written comic novels :

P. G. Wodehouse,

Henry Fielding,

Mark Twain,

John Kennedy Toole.

The simple plot : a unified construct of necessary and probable actions accompanied by a change of fortune.

Change of fortune - a crucial aspect of this type of plot — particularly the word *change*.

Character (or group of characters) and changes their fortune by introducing an action in the form of conflict or turn of events.

Aristotle stresses that this chain is a unified action, where all of the action within the plot is connected to all other actions. Then the subsequent actions are the probable and necessary outcomes of the former. And so on.

Complex Plot

- **Change of fortune is accompanied by a reversal of fortune, recognition, or both.**
- **Complex plot shares what the simple plot contains, but adds additional elements to make it more complex.**
- **The *reversal of fortune* is referred to in *Poetics* as *Peripeteia* — a pivotal or crucial action on the part of the protagonist that changes their situation from secure to vulnerable.**
- **Unexpected catastrophe and tragedy is revealed**
- **Heightens the audience's feeling of pity and fear — and other related emotions.**

Loose plot and Organic Plot

Loose plot :

Neither artistic unity, nor a logical connection between incidents in a loose plot.

Organic plot:

Logical and organic unity.

Characters and episodes are neatly organized with precision

Characters:

Major Characters And Minor Characters.

The protagonist

Flat Characters And Round Characters.

Setting

Location Or The Place And The Background Where The Action Of The Characters Is Performed Or Happened.

Rural Or Urban, Social Or Historical, Real Or Imaginative, Etc.

Point of View

The First Person Point of View

Omniscient Point of View

Thank
You