Mahwish Zeeshan

HR Department

English

30 November, 2011.

Reconsidering the Narratological perspectives of creative writing.

In his book ‘*The Art Of Fiction’ David Lodge has* given a detailed account of the diverse aspects of Narratological perspectives of creative writing. According to him by paying close attention to the elements of narrative discourse a writer can easily produce several different discourses from one story and each discourse will create a different impact upon the reader. The more the narrator shows the story through the reflector’s eyes , the more the intensely the reader feels the illusion of reality. The nature of the narrator can be further understood by elaborating upon the narratological perspectives.

According to David Lodge a narrator is the one whose ideas, opinions, or sense of values do not implicitly or explicitly agree with that of the author, the implied author, or the work as a whole. The nature of the narrator is not as unequivocal as it is assumed to be, as sometimes the narrator might be one of the characters in the story thus making the lines of demarcation between the characters and the narrator a bit bluer. Additionally according to Genette, “Most of the theoretical works on this subject narrative perspective (which are mainly classifications) suffer from regrettable confusion between what I call here mood and voice, a confusion between the question who is the character whose point of view orients the narrative perspective? and the very different question who is the narrator? — or, more simply, the question who sees? and the question who speaks? So even if narrative perspective is focused on a character, it does not necessarily mean that the character is a narrator.” Therefore the matter of focalization is crucial for the interpretation of the story.

When learning the art of mastering the narrative discourse one is not only required to understand the basic elements but one must also acquire the understanding of the techniques. To grasp the true essence of creative writing it is necessary to first thoroughly study and understand the work done by other well known authors. When reconsidering the Narratological perspectives of creative writing a wide variety of heading comes forth, which also includes the names of diverse writers such as Martin Amis,  Henry James, James Joyce, and Jane Austen and James Joy. It is only by reading and studying these different resources that one can truly control the elements that regulate narrative information. Thus by paying close attention to the structure of the narrative discourse one can grasp a comprehensive understanding of the structure of the narrative language .

Cited works

Genette, Gerard, *Narrative Discourse.* New York: Cornell U. P, 1980.

[William Strunk Jr.](http://www.librarything.com/author/strunkwilliam),  [E. B. White](http://www.librarything.com/author/whiteeb), *The Elements of Style,* 2000, (ISBN 020530902X)

David Lodge, *The Art Of Fiction,* 1994, (ISBN-10: 014017492)

James Wood, *How Fiction Works,* 2009, ( ISBN-10: 0312428472)

# John Gardner, *The Art of Fiction: Notes on Craft for Young Writers,* 1991, ( ISBN-10: 0679734031)

[http://www.librarything.com](http://www.librarything.com/)