Essay on literature: Theme: “The heroes of Leo Tolstoy's works in search of the meaning of life”

In his works, Leo Tolstoy often turns to the theme of the search for the meaning of life. This philosophical quest becomes the central theme of his famous novels, such as “War and Peace” and “Anna Karenina”. Through the fates of his characters, the writer explores human nature, moral dilemmas and the search for true values.

In the novel “War and Peace” the protagonist Pierre Bezukhov throughout the work goes through a complex path of self-awareness. At first he finds himself in the epicenter of secular life, strives for wealth and fame, but soon becomes disappointed in this. Pierre seeks answers to questions about the meaning of life, first in Freemasonry, and then in serving the common good by participating in the Patriotic War of 1812. Tolstoy shows that true happiness for Pierre comes not through external achievements, but through inner harmony and love of neighbor.

Anna Karenina, in the novel of the same name, also faces questions of the meaning of life, but her path turns out to be much more tragic. Anna seeks personal happiness and love, but her passionate feelings and desire to break free from the framework of society lead to her death. In this character Tolstoy embodies the contradiction between social norms and human desires, showing that the violation of moral laws leads to the destruction of personality.

Both works reflect Tolstoy's deep philosophical reflections on life, love and human values.

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