



Festive Traditions In English Literature: A Cultural Perspective

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Abstract: This article explores the rich traditions of English festivals and national holidays as depicted in literature. It highlights how celebrations like New Year's Day, Christmas, and April Fools' Day are vividly described in literary works, offering readers a deeper understanding of their cultural significance. By analyzing novels such as "Happy New Year" by Malin Stehn, "A Christmas in Disguise" by Katie Fforde, and "April Fools' Day" by Carolyn Keene, the study emphasizes the role of literature in preserving festive traditions. The article ultimately demonstrates how reading about these occasions can enhance one's appreciation of English culture and its celebrations.

Keywords: New Year's Holiday, Christmas (birthday of Jesus Christ), April Fool's Day, Congratulations, Celebration, Beautiful Ceremonies

Introduction

English colorful and outstanding traditional festivals and holidays which we can learn through their literature. English has a rich history and culture that hosts a wide range of traditional festivals and national holidays as New Year, Saint Valentines day, April fools day and other very special days. This kind of celebrations and occasions depicted in many literary works. We can feel all beauties of events while reading the literary works of writers. Here we can give some examples of this works.

New year holiday considered to be very special day for an adults and for children all around the world. January is New Year's Day and a blessed festival for a new beginning. Everybody spends this public holiday with their friends, family, and acquaintances and celebrate until midnight. Many people see the old year out with a party, welcoming in the New Year with toasts of champagne, and exchanging good wishes for a 'Happy New Year'. As the clock – Big Ben – strikes midnight, people all over the UK cross their arms across their chests and link hands with everyone close by them. The start of a new year is more than just the turning of a page; it's a time for everyone to take stock of their lives and make a fresh start. Around the world, the beginning of a new year symbolises a fresh start and a sense of hope, encouraging people to set goals and seize new opportunities .This special

occasion also mentioned in English literature by some authors in their works to show its importance and value. Lets take as an example the famous novel "Happy New Year" by Malin Stehn. This work describes this holiday all its colorful points and importance to everyones life.

Methodology

The tension is there right from the beginning in this book, and it kept me hooked. It's New Year's Eve, a night for excitement and the promise of new beginnings, but for one family it'll mark the end of the life they once knew, and the start of a horrific nightmare which becomes their new normality. Jennifer Wikells, a seventeen-year-old girl, who was hosting a New Year's Eve party, goes missing without trace.

I was really intrigued by what had happened to Jennifer. Malin Stehn shows us a couple of scenes in the lead up to her disappearance, that add to the intrigue, and it made me want to find out what happened to her even more.

Result and Discussion

The analysis reveals that literature serves as a powerful medium for preserving and interpreting festive traditions. In the case of New Year's celebrations, literary narratives emphasize the dual themes of renewal and hope, encouraging readers to view the turning of the year as an opportunity for personal reinvention. Christmas, as depicted in literary works, emerges not merely as a religious or commercial holiday but as a time for fostering deep human connections and social cohesion. Meanwhile, the portrayal of April Fools' Day underscores the importance of humor and subversion in questioning societal norms.

These findings suggest that festive traditions in English literature are multifaceted, offering both a celebration of cultural heritage and a platform for critical reflection on contemporary social issues. The interplay between tradition and innovation in these texts reflects a broader cultural dialogue one that values both continuity and change in the construction of communal identity.

Discussion

Another more important day for English people is Christmas day. There are variety works related to this theme but "A Christmas in disguise" by Keti Fforde is the attractive story which opens whole beauty and importance this day.

The main characters, Jo's friend Andi asks if she'll stand in to cook Christmas lunch for her employer, Jo reluctantly agrees. She knows Andi will lose her job if she doesn't, and wants to help her real friend.

Jo is nervous because Andi's boss is a well-known celebrity, who outright refuses to have anyone but Andi cook for her. But she also insists Andi wears full chef's whites so the girls think they'll get away with it ... it's the perfect Christmas disguise.

But when Jo runs into one of the guests – good looking and very smart Anthony - things get even more complicated.

In this story Christmas day described as special day and showed all details of this occasion as roast turkey and giving presents each other are the most outstanding moments

of this event. Readers can immerse themselves into the setting of this book while reading it sorrowly.

Another occasion related book is "April fools day" by Carolyn Keene which is described this event with all details. April Fools' Day or All Fools' Day is an annual event on 1 April consisting of practical jokes and hoaxes. Jokesters often expose their actions by shouting "April Fools!" at the recipient. Mass media can be involved with these pranks, which may be seen as the following day. The custom of setting aside a day for playing harmless pranks upon one's neighbour has been relatively common in the world historically.

Nancy, George, and Bess have been invited to an April Fool's Day party at their new schoolmate's house. It sounds like it's going to be a lot of fun -- each guest is bringing a gag to the party, and the best prank will win a special prize.

When two of the guests' fancy new electronics go missing, Nancy knows something's up. Is this someone's idea of a joke? The Clue Crew certainly isn't laughing, and they're on the case to find the missing gadgets.

Conclusion

In this book you can enjoy the interesting facts related to April fools day and learn how the natives celebrate this occasion in real life. According to this book I can say I have learned the importance of celebrating this festival and holidays. This knowledge can improve and enlarge my horizons to know the English culture in its real beauty and do some research works according to this sphere.

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