A Study of Structure of Campus Novel with the reference of *Joker in the Pack*

Savaliya Jaydipbhai K.

Research Scholar

ARTICLE DETAILS	ABSTRACT
Article History *Published Online:* 15 April 2019 **Keywords** Structure, campus novel, narration, satire, allusion. *Corresponding Author Email: jaydipsavaliya007[at]gmail.com	Researcher has analysed the campus novel Joker in the Pack with the reference of its structure. He cover the many various aspect or point to evaluate the structure of novel. Points are like: uses the flashback technique in narration, novel is presented in first person singular narration in past tense, by the omniscient narrator, linear straightforward narration, novel is divided into two parts, uses the weapon of satire effortlessly, allusion, essential connectivity between chapters and the narrative flows, in the chapter when he changes the story or discusses other points, he puts a particular space in each chapter etc. Researcher examined the structure of campus novel with the help of these points. All in all, the narrative is reader-friendly, in the sense its form gives every detail and also presents the requisite conversations. Overall the narrative is lively, unique and interesting.

1. Introduction

Ritesh Sharma is one of the authors of the novel "Joker in the Pack" and NeerajPahlajani is the co-author of this novel. Sharma has written two more books: *Deal DriversandCultural Aspects in M&A* involving Indian companies and the *Indian Economy- a Stable Growth Story*. He has been given Special Appreciation Award given by Rotary International to Ritesh Sharma in 2002 for efforts in individual capacity towards eradication of polio in India – "Pulse Polio Program".In addition to this, Sharma has a genuine love for writing. He published his three different works. One is a literary work: *Joker in the Pack,*the second one is on the Indian economy *The Indian Economy – A Stable Growth Story* and the third work is on M&A involving Indian Company that is *Deal Drivers and Cultural Aspect in M&A involving Indian Companies*.

NeerajPahlajani is co author of the novel *Joker in the Pack.* His father is a government employee and his mother is a home maker. NeerajPahlajanicompleted most of his schooling from Delhi.Pahlajaniwas brilliant in his study. He was always in top three in his entire grade. After he completed his MBA, he join American Express as a Analyst in the year 2006 and did this job for one year. Authors use bundle of verities in the diction in his novel and so that their novel is very popular. Authors use extraordinary diction in the *Joker in the Pack*.

The novel is *Joker in the Pack.* It focuses on the theme of campus. This is the story of one middle class boy Shekhar. He is the protagonist. He works hard and gets good percentage in board exams. But unfortunately, he gets admission in worst college. So, he is not interested in studies. He just studies for the sake of studying. He falls in love with Anoushka during this time. He decides to go for further study when he comes to know the salary of the topper of university is meager. He decides to do MBA from IIM.

He works hard and gets the admission in IIMB. He has very busy schedule in IIM. The experience of first week in IIM is very bad. Seniors rag him three times. He works hard to get good CG. He joins the team Vista and for gets success- he put his all efforts into it. He isselected on Day Two in the placement

for summer internship. He faces many difficulties during internship. He visits UP and West Bengal. His work satisfies the company officials. He gets PPO. He decides to get job on day Zero. He does all the things for getting job on Day Zero. Chummi is member of Placecome so he also helps him. Shekhar works in control room. It also helps to Shekhar to get job on Day Zero. As per his wish, he finally gets the job on Day Zero during the placement.

Structure of Campus Novel *Joker in the Pack*

Author uses the flashback technique in narration in the present novel. A prologue gives at the beginning of the novel. Author informs that he goes to the New York for his job. He explains the luxury of his home in New York. He goes to New York at the end of the novel.

The novel is presented in first person singular narration in past tense, by the omniscient narrator. It is in linear straightforward narration. Even while depicting very common aspects of campus, a very formal kind of language has been used in the novel. For example, the instance of Shekhar proposes Anoushka when they are in pizza joint after watching movie in vacation has been described thus,

> Anoushka, I think I'm falling for you and would like to be a part of your life. Would you be interested? If not, please don't feel offended and please don't leave. We can still be good colleagues!' that's it, I had said it but now I almost had a heart attack as I waited for her response. She smiled, to my relief, and said 'I like you too. But I don't know if there's anything more to the liking. It's too early to make a commitment.' I was half- relived, half-disappointed by her half-acceptance. (Sharma 28-29)

This novel is divided into two parts. The first part is from the first chapter to third chapter. First part of the novel is about the life of Shekhar in the BIT in Delhi University. The second part is from the chapter four to chapter thirteen. Second part of the novel is about the life of Shekhar in the India's best management institute- IIM.

The novel begins with the information about Shekhar's father. It reflects that he belongs to the middle class. In this part, light is thrown on the ideology and life of the middleclass people. It also reflects the pressure and situation of the child when he has a board exam:

> Oh, this is an important year, you're now in tenth standard." So while I was running to hide from the seeker, an extra passing by would just stop me and start asking "How are studies going on? Science and Maths tough, right? Board exams are high pressure?" and then the customary one-liner, the one-liner I've came to hate "Is eksaalmahnatkarlo, life ban jaayegi. (Sharma 15)

Authorsuse the weapon of satire effortlessly in the novel. He satirizes on present education system, load of study on student from the first day. Students don't have the time to think of something new. Students focus more on CGP. This is the situation of present education system. He also satirizes University policy to give the permission to colleges lacking in both infrastructure and staff. Shekhar describes his college in the following manner,

> … the faculty trying to convince us that the college was very good one, and that we would have all the freedom we want to create clubs and take part in self development need – which meant that the college had nothing and we could do whatever we wanted. (Sharma 19)

Allusion is also used in this novel like 'Carnal Speech'. Allusion is used by the authors to describe the ragging of freshers in the IIM. Seniors prepare one chair on which fresher sit and do whatever senior demand.

Despite the chapterization, there is essential connectivity between chapters and the narrative flows without any hurdles. Chapters don't have a title. Authors just give the series of Arabic number in words like Chapter One, Two, Three etc. This novel has thirteen chapters. All the chapters are given the numbers not names and the authors also use special fonts to write the titles of chapters.

First three lines have one tab space and the remaining portion is written normally. He puts the picture of a man in this space which is on the front cover page of the novel. For instance:

> I had come to believe that my relationship with Anoushka was perfect and both of us had harboured Similar notions on the charm and eternity of first love. But our diverging career paths and highly uncomfortable surroundings were making us think otherwise. (Sharma 99)

One notable thing of authorsare that they move from one topic to another very softly. In the chapter when he changes the story or discusses other points, he puts a particular space in each chapter. For example,

> "I no longer knew whether to laugh or cry. Laugh at her 'Sweetums' or cry at her choice in men, for I had been one of them."

> "Fourth term is a relatively stress free period at IIMB. After the summers, very few people on campus displayed the kind of academic orientation…." (Sharma 154)

Authors use the particular sign during the sentence in this novel. This sign is "—". For example: "That is all I did — watch TV and play cricket" (Sharma 15). "Now that was a problem — she was a Baniya, and I was Punjabi Brahmin —AnoushkaAgrarwal weds ShekharVarma…" (Sharma 30)."He made two mistake — revealing the CG and confiding in one of his friends" (Sharma 85). Etc.

In the present novel authors use Hindi language to give the regional touch to the novel. He writes the sentences in Hindi. After completing these sentences, there is a bracket ( ) in which he gives its meaning in the English language. For instance: "… Haanaurmujhe to mazaaaarahahai (Yeah, and I'm enjoying every bit)" (Sharma 84). "… Bahutaccha, mastiaarahihaiekdum (Great, I'm having a lot of fun)" (Sharma 92). "Beta aap log jaaozarabaadmeinaana (Could you guys come back later)" (Sharma 119).

All in all, the narrative is reader friendly in the sense. It is in the form gives every detail and also presents the requisite conversations. Overall the narrative is lively, unique and interesting.

Conclusion

Structure is one of the important part of this novel. He utilises various aspect of the structure to draw the things which he desires to do, for example: uses the flashback technique in narration, novel is presented in first person singular narration in past tense, by the omniscient narrator, linear straightforward narration, novel is divided into two parts, uses the weapon of satire effortlessly, allusion, essential connectivity between chapters and the narrative flows, in the chapter when he changes the story or discusses other points, he puts a particular space in each chapter etc. All in all, the narrative is reader-friendly, in the sense its form gives every detail and also presents the requisite conversations. Overall the narrative is lively, unique and interesting.

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A campus novel, also known as an academic novel, is a novel whose main action is set in and around the campus of a university. The genre in its current form dates back to the early 1950s. Thank you for attending the first in the Spring Brown Bag Series, Ramsey Library Brown Bag talks. We are very happy to be able to kick off this series with Dr. Merritt Moseley, one of our favorite professors. Here to tell you something about Dr. Moseley is Gwen Ashburn. Now Gwen is Dean of Humanities in the department of language and literature.