

### An Example of a Noble Family in the Novel "War and Peace"

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#### ABSTRACT

*In this article, the author considers one of the types of families described in the novel "War and Peace". On the example of the Rostov family, the author shows the features of family relationships, which the author calls ideal relationships. An assessment is given to each member of the Rostov family, who make up one single family community, who personified the "family thought" of the author.*

The novel "War and Peace" describes a family that is one of the types of families in Russia in the 19th century. In spirit, she is in many ways the opposite of the Rostovs, but is just as beloved by the writer. We are talking about the Bolkonsky family, in which the atmosphere of a tense inner life, somewhat harsh and ascetic, reigns.

A measured, meaningful way of life leads the old prince Bolkonsky. He is interested in politics, knows in detail "all the military and political circumstances of Europe in recent years." Nikolai Andreevich Bolkonsky is painfully experiencing the failures of the Russian army. But a little gloating. He is similar to Fonvizin's Starodum. There was Suvorov - and the Russian army was invincible. What about the current ones? What can they?! So argues the elder Bolkonsky. On the one hand, he is all in the past, but on the other, he is vigilantly following the present. "Prince Andrei listened ... involuntarily surprised how this old man, sitting alone for so many years without a break in the village, could know and discuss all military and political circumstances in such detail and with such subtlety."

In assessing the political situation, the beliefs of father and son are completely different. And they did not try to convince each other. Do they understand each other? The old prince "saw through" his son, there was no need to say anything. "Andrey was silent: he was both pleased and unpleasant that his father understood him." With his father, Prince Andrei was brought together, first of all, by an ironic attitude towards religion, towards sentimentality. My father believed that superstition and idleness are "two sources of human vices." The son speaks irreverently about the icon that Princess Marya wants to hang around his neck: "If he doesn't weigh two pounds and pull his neck." But complete mutual understanding did not come from some similarity of views - it came from somewhere inside, from the subconscious.

In 1812, having learned about the capture of Smolensk, Nikolai Andreevich Bolkonsky, despite his venerable age, decides to "stay in the Bald Mountains to the last extreme and defend himself." Thoughts about the motherland, about its fate, about the defeat of the Russian army do not leave him even in his dying hours.

The old prince was a Russian gentleman, sometimes tyranny and despotism manifested in him. Here he teaches Princess Marya mathematics, so that she "does not look like our stupid ladies." Reasoning about the rules of rational education prevents him from penetrating into the inner world of his daughter. That is why it is hard for Princess Marya, that her soul is full of religious enthusiasm, and her father, on top of everything else, an inept teacher, forces her to study science, to learn geometry. This juxtaposition itself is permeated with subtle literary irony.

Prince Andrei went through a difficult life path: from selfish aspirations for personal glory to understanding the need for universal love and forgiveness. He refuses to stay at Kutuzov's headquarters: "... I got used to the regiment, fell in love with the officers, and people seem to love me. I would be sorry to leave the regiment. Kutuzov understood and approved of Prince Andrei, the son of his friend. "Go with God on your own path," says Kutuzov. "I know your road is the road of honor."

So, we have two types of attitude to the world, to people that exist in the Bolkonsky families and the Rostov family. Tolstoy constantly confronts them on the pages of his novel. With particular force, the contradiction of these two ways of life was expressed in the relationship between Prince Andrei and Natasha. These heroes, so different, are drawn to each other and through suffering, mistakes, they learn to understand each other, like mind and soul. But their love was not crowned with earthly happiness.

Tolstoy rewards Princess Mary and Nikolai with family happiness: her deep and disinterested love seems to elevate, ennoble the simple, too earthly aspirations and feelings of Rostov. Princess Marya was not distinguished by external beauty and grace, but she conquered people with the light of her "radiant eyes", her spiritual beauty, and high morality. "The soul of the Countess has always strived for the infinite, eternal and perfect, and therefore could never be at peace."

To join the new, popular, not to remain in a state of rest - this is the obligatory criterion for the moral assessment of Tolstoy's characters. Tolstoy weaves the fate of the Rostovs and Bolkonskys, putting them to the test through war, the loss of loved ones and loved ones. And his favorite heroes adequately withstand these tests.

This is how Leo Tolstoy realizes his philosophical ideals in artistic form. But, like a great artist, at the same time he reveals to us something very important in the infinite wisdom of life, which does not fit into any philosophy.

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