

**THE POETICS OF LONGING AND HOPELESS LOVE IN  
ALEXANDER FAYNBERG'S "MEETING"**

***Mirag'zamova Oysha Mirsherzod qizi***

*Faculty of 2nd English foreign language and literature, Uzbekistan State*

*World Languages*

*University, Tashkent, Uzbekistan,*

[oishamiragzamova@gmail.com](mailto:oishamiragzamova@gmail.com)

***Annotatsiya:*** Ushbu ilmiy maqolada Aleksandr Faynbergning Uchrashuv she'ri tahlil qilinadi. She'r muhabbat, o'tkinchi baxt va umidsizlik mavzularini o'zida mujassam etadi. She'rning ramziy tasvirlari, ohangi va tuzilishi chuqur o'rganilib, Faynberg qanday qilib melancholik, ammo samimiy muhit yaratgani tahlil qilinadi. She'rda sevgi va ishonch borligi tasvirlansa-da, umidning yo'qligi sezilarli. Bir lahzalik baxt va muqarrar g'am orasidagi ziddiyat qarama-qarshi tasvirlar, takror va sezgirlik orqali kuchaytiriladi. Ushbu maqolada she'rning to'liq tarjimasi keltirilgan bo'lib, satrma-satr tahlil bilan chuqur ma'no ochib beriladi.

***Kalit so'zlar:*** Sevgi, sog'inch, umidsizlik, kontrast, o'tkinchi baxt.

***Аннотация:*** В данной исследовательской работе анализируется стихотворение Александра Файнберга Встреча (Uchrashuv), в котором воплощены темы любви, мимолетного счастья и отсутствия надежды. Исследование фокусируется на символических образах, тоне и структуре стихотворения, раскрывая, как Файнберг создает меланхоличную, но в то же время интимную атмосферу. Несмотря на присутствие любви и доверия, отсутствие надежды остается ощутимым. Контраст между мгновенным счастьем и неизбежной печалью усиливается через противопоставления, повторения и чувственные детали. В статье приводится полный перевод стихотворения и проводится его построчный анализ, раскрывающий более глубокие смыслы.



**Ключевые слова:** Любовь, тоска, безнадежность, контраст, мимолетное счастье.

**Abstract:** *This research paper analyzes Alexander Faynberg's poem Meeting (Uchrashuv), which encapsulates themes of love, fleeting happiness, and the absence of hope. Through a detailed exploration of its symbolic imagery, tone, and structural elements, this study examines how Faynberg crafts a melancholic yet intimate atmosphere. The poem portrays a moment of shared affection, where love and trust are present, yet hope remains elusive. The tension between momentary joy and inevitable despair is reinforced through its use of contrast, repetition, and sensory details. This paper includes the full translated version of the poem and provides a line-by-line analysis to uncover deeper meanings.*

**Key words:** Love, longing, hopelessness, contrast, fleeting happiness.

### **Introduction:**

Alexander Faynberg is a significant figure in Russian and Uzbek poetry, known for his ability to weave delicate yet powerful emotions into his verses. Writing during the Soviet era, Faynberg's work reflects a deep engagement with themes of love, memory, exile, and the fleeting nature of happiness. His poetry often carries a tone of nostalgia, longing, and existential contemplation, making his work deeply personal yet universally relatable.

One of his most striking poems, Meeting, explores the duality of love and despair. At first glance, it appears to celebrate an intimate moment between two lovers, but as the poem unfolds, an underlying sorrow emerges. The poem suggests that love, despite its intensity, is often accompanied by an inevitable sense of loss. Faynberg masterfully contrasts fleeting joy with a more profound, inescapable melancholy, highlighting the limitations of human emotions and relationships.

This poem resonates particularly with readers who have experienced love that is either forbidden, fleeting, or burdened by external circumstances. The speaker and their lover share a moment of warmth and trust, yet they cannot fully embrace their happiness because hope is absent. The poem does not just describe a physical



meeting—it symbolizes the ephemeral nature of happiness, much like champagne bubbles that rise and burst in an instant.

The structure of Meeting is simple yet effective, employing musicality, repetition, and sensory imagery to deepen its emotional impact. The symbolic use of music, wine, and secrecy adds layers of meaning, reinforcing the idea that love, no matter how intense, is often marked by constraints and hidden sorrow.

Full Translated Version of the Poem:

## Meeting

Let's make a promise to meet,

For meeting is no sin.

Let's escape somewhere far,

Away from the eyes of men.

A guitar and a violin in tune,

Softly playing a melody.

Whatever you wish for, dear waitress,

Will grant in an instant, readily.

Foamy bubbles dance and rise

As champagne is uncorked anew.

Life feels carefree, weightless, bright—

As if sorrow never grew.

The wine will wash away all grief,

Folding its wings so slow, so slight.

Love and trust, hand in hand,

Will quietly sit by our side.

Yet with trust, and yet with love,

We cannot speak with open hearts.





We have everything within our grasp,  
Except for hope—that stands apart

Analysis of the Poem:

## 1. Theme of Love and Longing

The poem captures an intimate moment between two lovers who are seeking solace away from the world. The lines:

"Let's make a promise to meet,  
For meeting is no sin.  
Let's escape somewhere far,  
Away from the eyes of men."

suggest secrecy, implying that their love might be forbidden or complicated. The emphasis on distance from society reflects their desire to exist in a private, untouched space where their emotions can be freely expressed.

## 2. Symbolism of Music and Wine

Faynberg uses music and wine as symbols of fleeting happiness. The mention of a "guitar and violin" suggests harmony and emotional depth, while champagne represents celebration and temporary bliss:

"Foamy bubbles dance and rise  
As champagne is uncorked anew.  
Life feels carefree, weightless, bright—  
As if sorrow never grew."

The poet creates a dreamlike atmosphere where the burdens of life momentarily disappear. However, this illusion is shattered as the poem progresses, highlighting the transient nature of their joy.

## 3. The Contrast Between Trust, Love, and the Absence of Hope

The poet introduces a contrast between the presence of love and the absence of hope:

"Yet with trust, and yet with love,  
We cannot speak with open hearts.  
We have everything within our grasp,



Except for hope—that stands apart."

While love and trust form the foundation of their relationship, an unspoken sorrow lingers. The inability to speak "with open hearts" suggests that something unresolved prevents them from fully embracing their connection. Hope, which is often the driving force behind love, is missing, reinforcing the melancholic undertone of the poem.

#### 4. The Role of Repetition

Repetition plays a crucial role in emphasizing the inevitability of their situation. The repeated contrast between what they have (love, trust) and what they lack (hope) creates a rhythmic reminder of their doomed love. The poem moves between moments of passion and the quiet realization that their happiness is temporary.

#### 5. The Poem's Structure and Tone

The poem is structured in a way that guides the reader through an emotional journey—from the initial excitement of the meeting to the quiet acceptance of their reality. The tone shifts from hopeful and tender to introspective and resigned. This gradual transition mirrors the lovers' experience as they navigate their feelings, only to arrive at the inevitable conclusion that hope is beyond their reach.

#### **Conclusion:**

Alexander Faynberg's *Meeting* is a poignant exploration of love and its limitations. Through its use of contrast, symbolism, and repetition, the poem paints a vivid picture of a romance that is passionate yet unfulfilled. While love and trust are present, the absence of hope creates an emotional void that lingers beyond the momentary joy. The poem's melancholic beauty lies in its ability to capture both the sweetness of love and the sorrow of its impermanence. By analyzing *Meeting* through its themes, literary devices, and structure, this paper highlights Faynberg's mastery in conveying complex human emotions with simplicity and depth. His work serves as a testament to the power of poetry in expressing the inexpressible—love, longing, and the silent grief of lost hope.



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