

**Title:** The Influence of A. Bely's *Петербург* on V. Pasternak's early prose ("Апеллесова Черта", "Вторая Картина. Петербург")  
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Andrey Bely is undoubtedly a significant influence on the early Pasternak. Though Pasternak attempts to dissociate himself from Bely at a later stage of his writerly career, emphasizing the primacy of Aleksandr Blok at the expense of his former idol, Bely's presence in his early writings, both prosaic and poetic, is an established fact. Pasternak before 1913–1914 (Futurist period) exhibits strong leanings towards Symbolism and his prosaic attempts of 1910–1912 are suffused with the elements of Symbolist poetics in general and Bely's in particular (Kling). However, Bely's effect on Pasternak's prose extends beyond these early fragments, and persists well into the second half of the 1910s, surfacing in such writings as "Апеллесова Черта" (1915) and "Вторая Картина. Петербург" (1917–1918).

These two pieces reflect Pasternak's enthusiastic engagement with Bely's novel *Петербург*. In "Апеллесова Черта" Pasternak applies a number of innovative and experimental narrative techniques (fragmented composition, subjective authorial narration, verbal orchestration, etc.) borrowed from Bely's novel to the subject matter of his own, while in "Вторая Картина" he closely follows the symbolist author not only in the technical experiments but in the subject matter as well. More importantly, unlike in "Апеллесова Черта" where Pasternak plays with several discrete Belyesque devices, in "Вторая Картина" Pasternak attempts to implement Bely's symbolist principle of correspondence: the reflection of the major idea on all levels of the text, not only in the word, image, and plot, but also in the rhythm, syntax, and verbal orchestration. Though Pasternak does not succeed in sustaining this principle over the whole of the piece due to the disintegration of the form, it is, nevertheless, curious to note that the Pasternak of 1917–1918 is still fully under the spell of Bely's symbolist poetics.

Клинг, О. "Борис Пастернак и Символизм." *Вопросы Литературы*. 2 (2002). 1 Nov. 2010  
<<http://magazines.russ.ru/voplit/2002/2/kl.html>>.

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