JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH
Volume 4, Issue 4, May 2026 Online ISSN: 3030-3508
https://spaceknowladge.com
==========

THE KAFKAESQUE PARADOX

Saidova Safiya Erkinovna
The Student Of Asia International University

ARTICLE INFORMATION

ARTICLE HISTORY:

Received:11.05.2026
Revised: 12.05.2026
Accepted:13.05.2026

KEYWORDS:

Franz Kafka, Kafkaesque, The Metamorphosis, The Trial, existentialism, alienation, bureaucracy, absurdism, modernist literature, social isolation, power dynamics

ABSTRACT:

This article is about Franz Kafka and what he wrote. Franz Kafka is an important person in literature from the 20th century. The article looks at his books like The Metamorphosis, The Trial and The Castle. It talks about the things that Franz Kafka liked to write about, such as feeling anxious and alone and how people can feel weird around the government and other big groups.

The article also looks at what was happening in Prague when Franz Kafka was alive and how his own life was pretty tough. This helped him come up with his special way of seeing the world, which people now call "Kafkaesque".

The article thinks about how famous Franz Kafka became after he died and how his ideas, about people feeling small and helpless are still important today. Franz Kafka wrote about people feeling small when they deal with powers and this is still something we think about now.

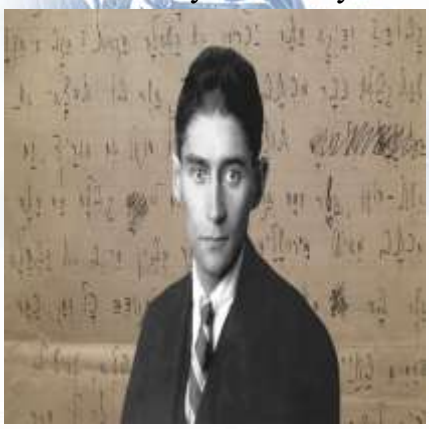
Introduction. Franz Kafka is a name that brings to mind a specific feeling. When people say something is "Kafkaesque" they are talking about a world that's very strange and scary. This world is full of organizations that do not care about individuals and systems that are very hard to understand. Even though Franz Kafka did not publish books when he was alive he is now known as the person who best writes about feeling anxious and worried about the meaning of life.

Kafka was born in Prague in the 1800s. This was a time when a lot of changes were happening in the world. His books do not just tell stories they also show what it is like to be a person who is trying to make sense of the world. In his stories people are often struggling to deal with systems that're very unfair and do not make sense. For example in The Metamorphosis a man named Gregor Samsa wakes up one day to find that he has turned into a bug. In The Trial a man is searching for justice. It is very hard for him to find.

These stories are like mirrors that reflect the fears and worries of the world. This article is about the life of Franz Kafka and how his personal struggles helped him to create a kind of fiction that is very surreal. By looking at his books, such as The Metamorphosis and The Trial and the themes of feeling alone and things being absurd we can start to understand why Franz Kafkas stories are still so relevant today. Franz Kafkas stories are, like nightmares that people can still relate to in our world of computers and technology .

Main body

To understand Kafkas writing you have to know where he came from. Kafka lived in Prague for most of his life. He was a German-speaking Jew in a world where Czech was mainly spoken. This put him in a kind of isolation that affected how he felt about himself. His job as an insurance officer gave him ideas for his stories about frustrating offices. He worked with lots of paperwork about accidents during the day. Then he would write his stories late at night. His dad, Hermann Kafka was very important in his life. His dad was very controlling. This difficult relationship with his dad inspired many of Kafkas stories. A common theme, in his work is the character of a boss who wants you to obey him but does not explain anything



Kafka's home life was really tough on him. He was born into a class Jewish family and was the oldest of six kids. But two of his brothers died when they were babies so Kafka felt like he had a lot of pressure on him. His dad, Hermann Kafka was a businessman who was really strict and critical. Kafka wrote a letter to his dad saying how his dad's behavior hurt

him. This experience influenced his writing especially when he wrote about judgmental characters.

The Quest for Connection: Love Life

Kafka had a time with relationships. He was engaged a few times. Never got married. He wanted to be close to people. He was also scared that having a family would ruin his writing.

Felice Bauer: Kafka was engaged to Felice twice. They wrote a lot of letters to each other. Kafka was always doubting himself and was scared to take the next step.

Milena Jesenska: Milena was a journalist who understood Kafka's work. They had a connection but it was also really tough for both of them.

Dora Diamant: At the end of his life Kafka met Dora, a Jewish activist. She was kind to him. Stayed with him until he died.

Friendship with Max Brod

Kafka did have one friend, Max Brod. Max was a writer. Helped Kafka with his work. They were part of a group of writers in Prague. Kafka trusted Max much that he asked him to burn all his papers after he died.. Max didn't do it and that's why we have Kafka's famous books like *The Trial* and *The Castle*.

Illness and the Final Silence

Kafka was sick a lot with tuberculosis. He spent a lot of time in hospitals and sanatoriums. He thought his illness was connected to his suffering. By the time he was 40 his illness had gotten really bad. He couldn't eat or talk properly. He died on June 3 1924. He was buried in Prague. It was like he finally found the silence he had been searching for.

Conclusion Kafka didn't write to be famous; he just wanted to express himself. His friend Max Brod saved his work. Now Kafka is considered one of the greatest writers of the 20th century. His books show us how it feels to be alone and lost in a confusing world. Long as people feel like they don't fit in Kafka's work will be important. He showed us that when things seem impossible it's still important to keep trying.

References

1. Kafka, F. (1915). *Die Verwandlung* [The Metamorphosis]. Kurt Wolff Verlag.
2. Kafka, F. (1925). *Der Prozess* [The Trial]. (M. Brod, Ed.). Verlag Die Schmiede.
3. Kafka, F. (1926). *Das Schloss* [The Castle]. (M. Brod, Ed.). Kurt Wolff Verlag.
4. Kafka, F. (1953). *Brief an den Vater* [Letter to His Father]. (Written 1919). Schocken Books.
5. Kafka, F. (1991). *The Blue Octavo Notebooks*. (M. Brod, Ed.). Exact Change.