

Analysis of ‘Angel on the track’ (as a revision of ‘On Track to Betrayal’) by Sally Johnson

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1 Introduction

This report examines the structural and stylistic features of the document ‘Angel on the track’, which is a revised version of ‘On Track to Betrayal’.

The report first identifies any chapters in the novel that show a distinctly different style, and then attempts to identify a suitable market for the novel by comparing it to existing commercial work. It goes on to examine the structure of the novel; identifying potential areas for attention and comparing the novel to its previous version.

The document ‘Angel on the track’ contains 72,831 words in the original document and was split into the 25 Chapters for analysis. For comparison, the previous document ‘On Track to Betrayal’ contains 55,854 words in the original document and was split into the 22 Chapters.

2 Stylistic variability from word-frequency analysis

Figure ?? shows the stylistic relationship between chapters in the current and previous versions of the novel. In Figure ?? numbers in black represent the chapters from ‘On Track to Betrayal’ and the numbers in red represent chapters from ‘Angel on the Track’.

The overall consistency of the text are well within the bounds expected of commercial fiction, with some interesting features. Unusually for a revision process, the style differences between chapters have become more pronounced (although only slightly) between versions. This can chiefly be attributed to the large amount of extra content that has been added (almost 25% of the novel is new).

In general, chapters points in particular stand out: 1, 2, 3, and 6. As before, Chapter 1’s difference is quite justifiable: not only is it an opening chapter but one of the major characters in the chapter (Jenny) appears very little in the rest of the novel, and another major character (Angelo) does not appear at all.

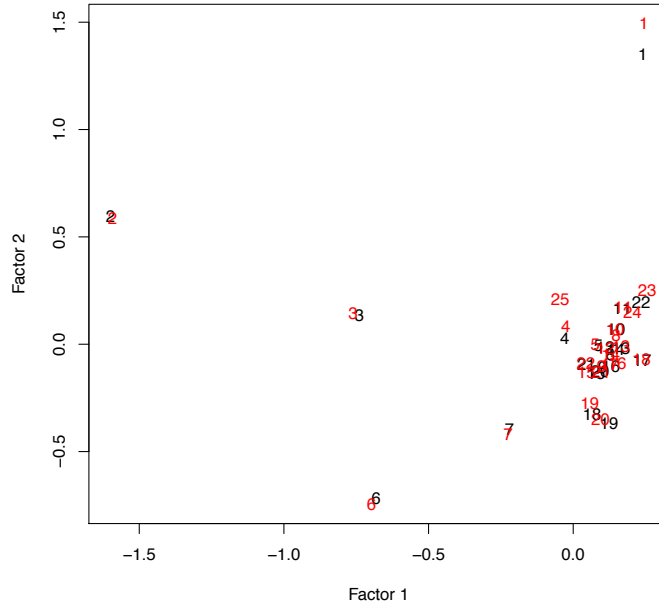


Figure 1: Style analysis for ‘On Track to Betrayal’

The reason for the unusual nature of Chapters 2 and 3 is still unclear - perhaps there is still some setting up of the story happening?

2.1 Comparative Analysis

Figure 2 shows ‘On Track to Betrayal’ (in black) and ‘Angel on the Tracks’ (red), compared with several other novels. These are: Kaleidoscope, by Danelli Steele (green); Emma, by Jane Austen (yellow); and Eclipse, by Stephanie Meyer (blue). It is clear that the style and word choice in this instance is closer to the Steele-style romance than either the classic or teen styles of the other examples. Furthermore, the overall consistency of the text is similar to what would be expected from a published novel, although the Steele-type novels tend to be of a tighter prose style.

3 Narrative Structure

Figure 4 shows the narrative structure produced by correspondence analysis. Generated on a chapter level, this diagram provides an illustration of the story structure. Compared to the structure of ‘On Track to Betrayal’ shown in Figure 3 we see a much more solid structure that fits the classic ‘blockbuster’ mould. In particular, it is clear that chapter 18 has been changed in such a way that it is no longer visibly unusual in the structure and the section from chapters 7 to

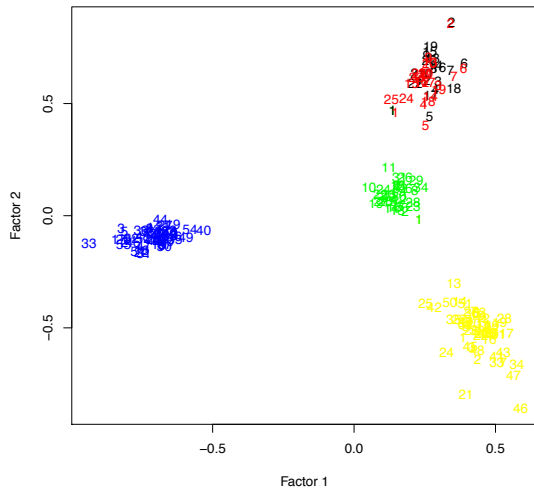


Figure 2: Comparative style analysis and market positioning for 'On Track to Betrayal'

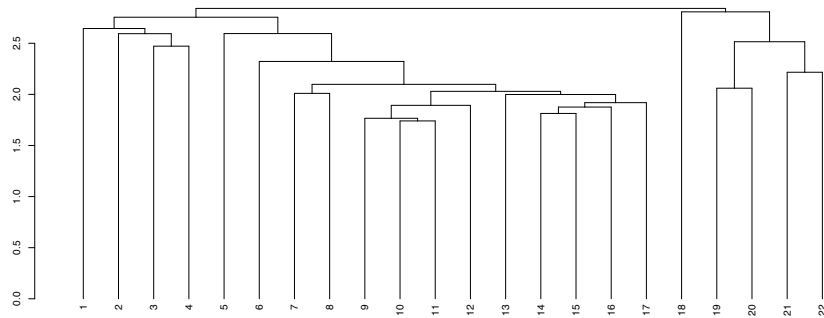


Figure 3: Narrative structure of 'On Track to Betrayal'

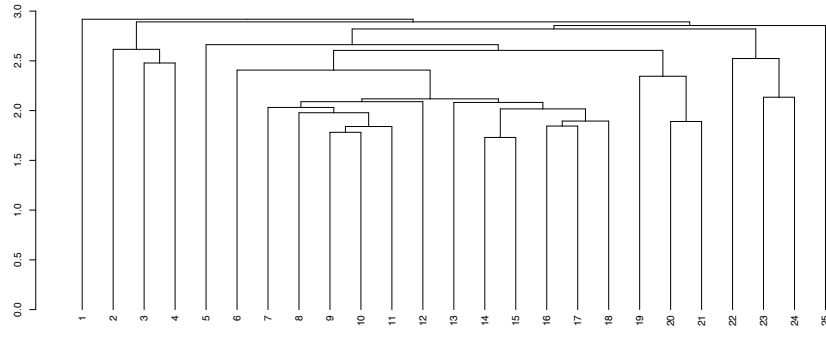


Figure 4: Narrative structure of 'Angel on the Track'.

17 is no longer noticeably subdued compared to the remainder of the novel. In general the novel appears structurally sound and highly commercial.