

An Analysis of the Combination of Chinese and Western Cultures in Discrete Literature -- Taking Li Yan's English novel Snow Lily as an Example

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Abstract: Cultural amalgamation is not only a striking phenomenon in discrete literary works, but also a literary reality in the creation of non-native language literary works in the multicultural context. Through the text analysis of the latest English novel "Snow Lily" by Li Yan, a Chinese Canadian writer, this paper discusses the application of the combination of Chinese and Western cultures in literary works in the multicultural context. At this time, Utopia plays a negative role in reality, alerting people to reset their hopes in time, in order to connect with the future; Although it is an exotic life from the bottom of the society, the protagonist Lily never gives up her efforts. She is pursuing a kind of universal values about the growth of the soul and human beings. Utopia has realized the budding role of the future ideology here.

Keywords: Chinese and Western Cultures; Discrete Literature; Snow Lily, Li Yan

1. INTRODUCTION

Discrete literature refers to literary works created by writers who migrate from one nation-state to another in the language of the host country. The cultural amalgamation in discrete literature is a special social form produced by the blending of mother tongue culture and mainstream culture. Since the 1980s, Chinese-American writers who wrote in English or in the language of the host country have increasingly attracted the attention of the mainstream western literary and critical circles.

She studied news gathering and editing at the Chinese Academy of Sciences before going abroad, and then transferred to history major in Canada. Journalism study makes her writing concise and concise, and her history specialty makes her remember that she should write on the basis of it. Therefore, her works have a grand historical background and numerous characters, but have a refined, orderly, authentic affinity. The protagonists in her works, especially women, have rich and delicate feelings. Most of the stories are based on the historical environment of China in the 20th century, which makes it easy for domestic readers to resonate. However, due to the different immigration status (either young immigrants, or adult immigrants; or the first generation immigrants, or the second and third generation immigrants), when the writers use the combination of Chinese and Western cultures to narrate, either through memory, or through imagination, Or through different artistic creation methods such as realism, the works bring people different artistic enjoyment in revealing the theme, depicting the character and enhancing the effect of language expression.

The whole novel not only constructs Dr. Bethune, whom the whole Chinese people once sincerely admired, as the spiritual pillar of the protagonist Lily, but also organically combines with the plot of the story, and unexpectedly and seamlessly extracts large sections of the famous works of Mao Zedong's "Remembrance of Bethune". Taoist culture is an important part of Chinese traditional culture and a valuable spiritual

wealth created by the Chinese nation in the long historical development process. One of the principles of Taoist wisdom is "do not fight for it". "The way of heaven is to benefit without harm; the way of man is to fight for it, so the world can't fight against it".



Figure. 1 Li Yan's English novel Snow Lily.

2. THE PROPOSED METHODOLOGY

2.1 The combination of moral ethics with Chinese traditional cultural characteristics and western religious beliefs

Chapter 8 of Snow Lily describes the wife of the novel character "Your Majesty" in China. Although she has not had much schooling, she has traditional Chinese philosophy in her bones. Although many scholars have tried to redefine Utopia from different angles and in different ways, almost all scholars agree that Utopia is a yearning for something beautiful, that is, inheriting the original definition of Utopia by Moore. The early Utopian thought manifested itself in literature, religion, philosophy and politics At the beginning of the first chapter of "The Unknown Woman" in The Woman Warrior, the mother warned her daughter, "Don't tell anyone

that your father had a sister who committed suicide in China, and she jumped into the well at home"

With the understanding of advanced ideas such as "women's liberation" and "equality between men and women" and their practical realm that Jamaican intellectual women can achieve, the only action that can be imagined and put into practice is to go the other way and buy and enjoy the pornographic services sold by French young men "freely". Idioms are a part of language, including idioms, idioms, proverbs, allegorical sayings, maxims, idioms, allusions, etc., which are relatively stable in structure and meaning. It is the essence and treasure of language, with profound meaning and strong national cultural color and distinctive cultural connotation. To create in a second language, the subject matter is not familiar to the mainstream society. In order to achieve the goal of seeking national, cultural and self attributes in the form of the mainstream language, discrete writers often combine the vocabulary with the characteristics of mother tongue culture with the mainstream language.

2.2 Cultural Combination and Its Significance in Discrete Literature

For people living in a foreign country, the discomfort caused by cultural conflict cannot be avoided. However, if this conflict is only in terms of customs and habits and can be solved by time, then this discomfort will not pose a threat to hope. Hope is the spiritual power of human activities, but at the same time, hope also expresses people's dissatisfaction with the current reality. What people want to have is what reality cannot give. Without hope, reality will remain unchanged. Snow Lily is an English novel published by Canadian bilingual writer Li Yan in 2009.

This novel mainly shows the psychological process of the new generation of Chinese immigrants living in Canada at the end of the 20th century. "In a foreign country, Li Yan's starting point of life is greatly different from that of the early immigrants. Their good education provides them with a new perspective of observation and thinking: they pay more attention to the changes of their own and the spiritual level of their society"

The author's exposure and analysis of the reality, although not in a harsh tone, is more like a casual chat. If the reader carefully speculates, the distinctive social ecology of "leading and being led" and "using and being used" in China and Canada are on paper. In addition to the descendants of the British, the French and a small number of Indians, the remaining one-third of the population comes from all over the world. Immigration from all over the country has brought Canada a rich and colorful cultural atmosphere and formed a multicultural environment. The coexistence of different artistic expressions and cultural characteristics of different nationalities has brought about the prosperity of Canadian cultural undertakings.

3. CONCLUSION

Literary works created under the multicultural background, whether created by overseas Chinese English writers or by overseas Chinese writers, inevitably have their own ethnic cultural characteristics. North American discrete literature

reflects the history of several generations of Chinese struggling to survive in the United States and Canada, and describes the foreign experience of Chinese immigrants trying to change their destiny and create a new life in different social and historical environments. However, due to the different immigration status of writers, in order to truly reflect the historical features of immigrants in different periods, their methods of expressing Chinese culture in the English context are also different, thus portraying different characters and bringing different artistic enjoyment to readers.

4. REFERENCES

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