

The Crossover Fusion of Film and Television Literature and Traditional Literature: The Interpretation of the Literary Elements in Chinese TV Dramas

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Abstract. This paper studies the cross-boundary integration of film and television literature and traditional literature, as well as the application of literary elements in Chinese TV series. This study examines the development process of literary adapted TV dramas, the typical cases of literary elements in Chinese TV dramas, and the relationship between literature and the cultural background of Chinese TV dramas. At the same time, the paper analyzes the expression of literary elements in the TV series, including the use of symbols and symbols, character depiction and emotional expression, as well as the narrative structure and plot design. In addition, this study also discusses the inheritance of TV series on the original literature, as well as the literary innovation and experiment in TV series, and the influence of film and television literature on the audience. Finally, the paper discusses the challenges and opportunities faced by the cross-border integration of film and television literature, including the cross-boundary problems between literature and TV drama, as well as the potential of film and television literature in terms of market prospect and commercial value. By deeply studying the interaction between film and television literature and traditional literature, this paper aims to provide a useful reference for future research in this field.

Keywords: Film and Television Literature; Traditional Literature; Literary Elements; TV Drama.

1. Introduction

With the booming development of the film and TV drama industry, the film and television works are no longer limited to the entertainment field, but have become one of the carriers of cultural inheritance and innovation. Among them, TV series, as an important form of film and television expression, has gradually entered the life of the audience and played an important role in spreading culture, values and stories. However, TV dramas are not isolated from the creation and inheritance of culture. They often absorb the nutrients of traditional literature and integrate literary elements, thus presenting richer and more profound connotations. This paper aims to study the intersection and fusion between film and television literature and traditional literature, and focus on the literary elements in Chinese TV series. As an audio-visual medium, TV drama is not only a simple remake of literary works, but also a process of re-creation and re-interpretation on the basis of the original work. This cross-border integration not only expands the expression form of literary works, but also provides the audience with a multi-dimensional cultural experience.

2. Overview of Film and Television Literature and Traditional Literature

Film and television literature refers to the literary works expressed in the form of video media such as films and TV dramas, which is the combination of literature and video art. Traditional literature refers to the literary works with words as the main way of expression, including novels, poetry, drama and other forms. There are some obvious differences and connections between film and television literature and traditional literature[1]. First of all, film and television literature is the image as the main form of expression, through visual and auditory sensory stimuli to convey the story and characters. However, traditional literature relies on the expression of words to stimulate the readers' imagination and convey emotions and thoughts through the description and narration of words. Secondly, the film and television literature is more intuitive and concrete in its expression, and presents the story plot and characters through the technical means of actors' performance, sound



effects and special effects. However, traditional literature pays more attention to the use of words, and creates literary and artistic effects through rhetorical devices, character shaping and plot construction. In addition, film and television literature has a wide influence and communication power in communication, and can reach the public through cinemas, TV broadcasting, network platforms and other channels. Traditional literature is mainly transmitted through publications, literary publications, literary activities and other channels. Despite these differences, film and television literature and traditional literature also have many things in common[2]. They are human life, emotions and thoughts as the creative theme, through the story to express the human inner world and characters. They all pursue artistry and expression, and strive to convey the author's intention and opinion through the technique of expression and literary skills.

3. Literary Elements in Chinese TV Dramas

3.1. The Development Course of Literary Adapted TV Series

The history of literary adaptation of Chinese TV dramas dates back to the last century, when the TV drama industry was in its infancy. The earliest TV series were adapted from classic Chinese literature works, such as Lu Xun's *Sister Xianglin*, which was mainly adapted at that time to popularize literary classics and make them more widely spread to the audience[3]. However, these early literary adaptations of the TV series usually have large deficiencies in the production level and the technique of expression, as well as the low loyalty to the original literary works. With the passage of time, the trend of Chinese TV drama adaptation of literature works has gradually evolved. From the 1980s to the 1990s, TV dramas began to pay more attention to narrative skills and visual effects, as well as pay more attention to the loyalty of the original literary works. The TV adaptation of this period respected the plot of the original work more and tried to restore the essence of literary works to attract the attention of the audience.

However, with the further development of China's TV industry, literary TV adaptation also face new challenges. The audience's expectation for the adaptation of literary works is no longer limited to the faithful restoration, but also hopes that the TV series will provide a richer viewing experience through visual and emotional innovation on the basis of retaining the emotional depth of the original work. This demand has led to a series of successful TV series, such as *The Swordsman* and *Legend of the Condor Heroes*, which have won the love of the innovative narrative structure and character shaping while maintaining the emotion of the original story.

3.2. A Typical Case of Literary Elements in Chinese TV Series

Literary elements in Chinese TV dramas appear in various forms, and one common way of expression is in TV dramas adapted from literary classics[4]. For example, *A Dream of Red Mansions*, as the peak of Chinese literature, has been adapted into TV series for many times. Not only that, it has also become a source of inspiration in the creation of many TV dramas, affecting the narrative techniques and cultural expression of Chinese TV dramas. In addition to TV dramas adapted from literary classics, some modern novels are also brilliantly presented in TV dramas. For example, when *Nirvana in Fire*, written by Haiyan, was adapted into a TV series, it not only successfully conveyed the emotional depth of the original work, but also added elements of suspense and political conspiracy to make the TV series more attractive.

In addition, some Chinese TV dramas also incorporate traditional cultural elements into the plot. For example, the *Romance of the Three Kingdoms* presents a picture of the quotation of ancient poems and the use of classical music for the audience, which is rich in the atmosphere of traditional Chinese culture, which further enriches the cultural connotation of the TV series.

3.3. Literature and the Cultural Background of Chinese TV Dramas

The literary elements in Chinese TV series are not only the plot and characters, but also the embodiment of the culture behind them. China has rich cultural traditions, including poetry, opera, novels, etc. These cultural elements are often inherited and carried forward in TV dramas. For example, some ancient poems are often quoted in TV dramas to enhance the emotion and atmosphere. At the same time, China's historical and social background is often reflected in the TV series. Through the use of literary elements, the audience can have a deeper understanding of the cultural connotation and social significance behind the story[5].

The literary elements in Chinese TV dramas are a complex and rich field, which can not only reflect the interactive relationship between Chinese literature and TV dramas, but also reflect the diversity of Chinese culture and the inheritance of tradition. Through an in-depth study of the development process of these elements, typical cases and the relationship with the cultural background, we can better understand how Chinese TV dramas use literary elements to convey emotions, explore values, and continue to exert cultural influence in contemporary society.

4. The Way the Literary Elements are Represented in the TV Series

4.1. The Use of Symbols and Symbols

In TV series, the use of symbols and symbols often conveys emotions and themes through visual and metaphorical ways. Through specific images, objects or scenes, the TV series can convey a deeper meaning and arouse the audience's thinking and resonance[6]. For example, a flower, a knife, or a place, can all be given a special symbolic meaning to reinforce the storyline or character. This way of expression not only increases the artistry of the TV series, but also provides the audience with a multi-level reading experience. Take the TV series *Zhaojun Out of the Wall* as an example, the "complex outside the Wall" is often expressed through symbols such as natural landscape and seasonal changes to reflect the inner feelings of the characters and the development of the story. The ingenious use of these symbols enables the audience to have a deeper understanding of the emotional world in literary works.

4.2. Character Characterization and Emotional Expression

Character depiction and emotional expression in the TV series are the key parts of the literary elements[7]. By deeply dissecting the characters' character, motivation and emotional changes, TV dramas can better convey the emotional depth in the original literature. The dialogue, behavior, and inner activities of the characters are all powerful tools to express the emotion.

Lin Daiyu in a *Dream of Red Mansions* is a character full of ambivalence. She is smart, sensitive, but also very fragile and sentimental. In the TV series, her character is deeply portrayed through her dialogue, behavior and inner monologue. Lin Daiyu's contradictory feelings, inferiority complex and resistance to fate are all shown through the actors' performances and emotional expression. The audience can feel his melancholy and tenacity, which makes the character more three-dimensional and profound, while also making it easier for the audience to emotionally resonate with her.

4.3. Narrative Structure and Plot Design

The narrative structure and plot design of TV dramas are equally crucial for conveying literary elements. The plots of literary works often needs to be compressed and adjusted to suit the pace and duration of the series. At the same time, TV dramas can also highlight certain themes or emotions by changing the narrative structure. For example, adopting recall, flashbacks, or multiline narrative structures can give the viewer a deeper understanding of the complexity of the characters and events.

In the TV series *All Men Are Brothers*, a multi-line narrative structure is adopted to present the story through the perspectives and experiences of different characters. This design allows the audience to

have a more comprehensive understanding of the lives and emotions of each character, while also adding drama and tension to the development of the story.

5. Film and Television Inheritance and Innovation of Literary Elements

5.1. The Inheritance of the Original Literature Written by the TV Series

As a form of film and television literature, TV series are usually adapted based on the original literary works[8]. This inheritance enables the original literary works to be presented to a wider audience, further promoting and spreading the original works. When inheriting the original literature, TV dramas usually retain the important elements such as the plot, characters and theme of the original work, and strive to faithfully restore the core spirit and artistic style of the original work.

Through the inheritance of the TV series, the audience can more intuitively feel the emotions and thoughts conveyed by the original literary works through the visual and auditory sensory stimulation. At the same time, the adaptation of the TV series also helps to attract more audiences to pay attention to the original literary works, stimulate their interest in literature and their desire to read, and further promote the inheritance and development of the original literature.

For example, several versions of the TV series *A Dream of Red Mansions* are devoted to faithfully restoring Cao Xueqin's literary classics. Through the beautiful pictures, wonderful acting skills and traditional music, these TV dramas make the audience more deeply feel the emotion and artistic conception in the novel. This inheritance not only helps to preserve the value of the original literature, but also introduces the classic works to new audiences.

5.2. Literary Innovation and Experiment in the TV Series

As an independent art form, TV drama also has its own innovation and experiment. In the process of TV drama creation, the scriptwriter and director can reinterpret and adapt the original literature, and show their unique views and artistic ideas by changing the plot, characters and ending[9]. At the same time, some new literary elements and skills can also be introduced into the creation of TV series, such as jumping narrative, non-linear structure, multiple perspectives, etc. These innovations and experiments can make TV dramas more artistic and ornamental, and further enrich the form and connotation of film and television literature.

5.3. The Influence of Film and Television Literature on Audiences

As a popular art form, film and television literature has a profound influence on the audience. First of all, film and television literature can stimulate the audience's interest in and love for literature, prompting them to take the initiative to understand and read the original literary works. Film and television work usually attract a large number of audiences, which provides an opportunity for the dissemination of the original literature.

Secondly, film and television literature can convey emotions and thoughts through the story plot and character image shaping, and influence the audience's values and world outlook. In the process of watching the film and television works, the audience will resonate with the characters in the play, so as to think more deeply and reflect on their own life and social problems. In addition, film and television literature can also provide audiences with a way to entertain and relax. The audience can watch the film and television works to obtain emotional catharsis and spiritual comfort, so as to reduce the pressure of life, and obtain psychological satisfaction.

6. Challenges and Opportunities of Crossover Integration of Film and Television Literature

6.1. The Crossover Problem between Literature and Tv Drama

Crossover integration involves transforming literary works into TV dramas, and there are some challenges and difficulties in the process [10]. A challenge is how to faithfully restore the essence of the original literature in the TV series while the necessary adaptation and innovation. There is a conflict between the audience's expectations of the original work and the fitness of the TV series, and the director and the screenwriter need to strike a balance to ensure that the work retains the characteristics of the original work and attracts the audience. Literature is often more detailed and thorough, while dramas are time constraints and require presenting stories within a limited time. Therefore, how to reasonably compress and edit the plot of the original work to meet the length of the TV series is an important challenge. At the same time, the TV series needs to control the rhythm to keep the audience interested. In literature, the character and inner world of the characters can be expressed through words, but in the TV series, the performance of the actors is crucial. Choosing the right actors and allowing them to accurately interpret the characters in the original book is challenging. If the actor fails to convey the emotion and complexity in the literature, it may affect the quality of the work.

6.2. The Market Prospect and Commercial Value of Film and Television Literature

Despite the challenges, the crossover integration of film and television literature has also brought huge market prospects and commercial value. Traditional literary works usually have a certain fan base, and adapting them into a TV series can attract these fans and expand the audience group. The audience may be attracted by the original novel and become interested, or the loyal audience of the TV series is willing to understand the original content. Well-known literature is branded, and they can be attractive to investment and production teams. These works are often more visible in the market, and can appeal to high-quality actors and production teams.: Film and television literature can generate revenue through a variety of channels, including TV advertising, licensing fees for online streaming platforms, peripheral product sales, and international sales. This diversity can create greater commercial opportunities for the producers. Through TV dramas, literary works can be more widely disseminated to the international market, promoting cultural export and internationalization. This will help to promote national literature and culture and enhance international cultural exchanges.

7. Peroration

In Chinese TV dramas, the cross-border integration of film and television literature and traditional literature shows rich and colorful cultural deposits and creative strength. Through faithful inheritance and ingenious innovation, the TV series successfully presents classic literary works on the screen, providing the audience with a profound cultural experience. This cross-border integration not only enriches the inheritance of Chinese literature, but also brings business opportunities for the TV drama industry. It carries forward the power of literature, makes the classic works shine with new luster in contemporary times, and also deepens the audience's understanding and love for literature, art and culture. This integration is an important part of China's cultural and creative industry, and also a wonderful intersection of literature and film and television art.

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