# On the Basic Aesthetic Characteristics of Children's Literature

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**Abstract:** the Connotation of children's Literature Has a Strong Diversity, as Well as Rich Ideological Value. Based on This, from the Perspective of Literature, This Paper Analyzes the Meaning and Development of children's Literature, and Further Studies Its Basic Aesthetic Characteristics, Hoping to Provide Some Help for the Relevant Personnel.

#### 1. Introduction

In the History of Literature, children's Literature Has Experienced a Relatively Long Process, Which Plays a Vital Role and Value in Human Literature and Art. for Literary Works, the Audience is Strongly Particular, So the Aesthetic Characteristics Are Also Unique. At Present, No Matter in the Domestic Research, or in the Foreign Research, for children's Literature, It is Mentioned That They Should Have the Simple and Pure Characteristics. in the Process of Literature Development in China, Many Excellent children's Literature Works and Writers Have Emerged, Including Bing Xin and Ye Shengtao. in These writers' Works, in Addition to the Integration of the Background of the Times, They Also Focus on children's Physical and Mental Growth and Emotional World, Which Plays a Great Role in the Sound and Cultivation of children's Moral Character.

# 2. Meaning of Children's Literature and Development of Chinese Children's Literature

# 2.1 Analysis of the Meaning of Children's Literature

For children's literature, the main principle of creation is to meet the current aesthetic awareness and psychological characteristics of children's growth stage, to effectively promote the physical and mental development of children and to ensure their healthy growth. At the same time, there should be strong consciousness and creativity. The purpose of creation must be clear, and the content should meet the actual development needs of the current children, so that the unique style of literary works can be integrated with the real life. Moreover, for children of different ages, their thinking ability and life style also differ. Therefore, according to these differences, children's literature can be divided into three stages: infant literature, childhood literature and juvenile literature [1]. Because of different stages, there are many differences in literary creation methods and forms of expression. Therefore, in the analysis of the basic aesthetic characteristics of children's literature, we should also consider comprehensively and study effectively.

# 2.2 Analysis of the Development of Chinese Children's Studies

Through analysis and study, modern literature in China started from the literary revolution in the late Qing Dynasty, with Liang Qichao and other representatives. In this stage, although it was mainly the enlightenment revolution in political position, from a macro perspective, it played a certain role in promoting the creation of children's literature works to a certain extent <sup>[2]</sup>. Moreover, based on this background, in the early stage of the May 4th Movement, a group of writers including Hu Shi and Guo Moruo emerged, which effectively promoted the development of children's literature. In this stage, most children's literature works were based on the translation of foreign literature works, and the adaptation of ancient literature works. Self-produced works were relatively few and not mature enough. Because of the further promotion of the May 4th Movement, outstanding writers such as Bing Xin and Ye Shengtao also increased their literary creation and research, especially Ye Shengtao, whose "Scarecrow Man" works are known as the landmark works

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of Chinese children's literature towards maturity. After a long period of development, the creation of children's literature has become more and more mature.

#### 3. Analysis of the Basic Aesthetic Characteristics of Children's Literature

# 3.1 Playfulness

In children's life and growth process, the main activity is play. Children learn about the world, grow and study through play. Therefore, games are the most important landmark activities in their growth stage. By participating in the game activities, children's psychological and physiological characteristics are effectively displayed. In addition, children can run, fight and do whatever they want in the game, which fully embodies the freedom and unruly in childhood <sup>[3]</sup>. From an objective point of view, children's understanding of the world is often based on games. With the help of games, they are able to constantly strengthen their own aesthetic standards.

For literary works, the spirit of play is eternal. Children are able to highlight their own standard through play. Therefore, in the creation process, writers mainly take games as the basis, think comprehensively and create reasonably, so as to ensure that they can really show children's standard and truly take children as an independent entity [4]. In addition, in the creation, only by accurately grasping the playfulness of children's literature can we fully understand children's psychological characteristics and thinking characteristics, so that more happy stories can be told in the game, more vivid figures be created, and a natural, frank and interesting style of children's literature be formed, such as Zheng Chunhua's "The Big Head Son and Little Head Father". These excellent works show the life form through the way of game, effectively extending the real life of children. Games also strengthens the creation of stories, which effectively attracts children's attention. For example, in "Lane Girl", it shows many children's favorite game life, including "being a little bride" and "being family members".

# 3.2 Childlike Style

Through the further analysis, we know that for children's literature mainly takes children as the audience. It must start from the perspective of children's thoughts with certain childishness, highlight children's imagination and emotional and psychological state, fully reflect the language and behavior related to children, and reasonably show the childishness and innocence. At the same time, it should fully reflect the childishness of children's view of the world, and sometimes it even needs to contradict with real life.

Children's literature is a kind of literature form to analyze the world from the perspective of children. Therefore, it is essential to write with a pure and innocent vision to ensure that the purity and transparency of children can be demonstrated <sup>[5]</sup>. For example, in Andersen's The Emperor's New Clothes, it exposes the hypocrisy and stupidity of the world in the way of children's thinking, which vividly describes the hypocrisy between the emperor and the minister, and uses the pure tone of children to narrate. Moreover, children's literature shows the real life, and effectively integrates the essential relationship of things together, so as to ensure that the works can be more practical.

# 3.3 Vivid and Humorous Language

Usually, in children's real life and growth process, they often have self-centered thinking. According to this kind of thinking, children tend to be mixed or distorted in the process of observing the world and understanding things, which makes them gradually form a unique non logical cognition. For this kind of cognition, it will lead to a new kind of humor and light comedy. However, in the process of children's own growth, they often think that these illogical phenomena are natural and reasonable <sup>[6]</sup>. Therefore, for the vast majority of children, they are very fond of some vivid and humorous works. In their growth stage, humor also belongs to a kind of nature, which fully reflects their interests and hobbies. For example, in the works of Gorky, a famous writer, he once talked about childre's literature. According to his point of view, children's literature should firstly belong to a kind of happy literature, which should not simply tell some boring stories, but

need to integrate some interesting things.

For example, in the works of The Big Head Son and Little Head Father, there is a clip. The little head father lies on a bench, sleeping, while the big head son plays on the park lawn. The son feels very boring, so he pushes his father to try to wake him up. However, the father doesn't respond at all, so the son is very angry. He pickes up a leather shoe on the ground, and throws it into the dustbin under the tree. He then takes another big leather shoe, and hangs it on the tree. He is so happy. Through this kind of writing, it expresses a strong sense of humor, which fully highlights the color of light comedy and makes people laugh. Moreover, these words also just meet the children's reading interest, which is very easy to arouse children's resonance.

#### 3.4 Fantastic Fantasy

Combined with the relevant theories of children's psychology and pedagogy, it is clear that children's life is full of certain dreams. Every child's growth is a dream and dynamic individual of life, which is reflected in children's cognition. In real life, what adults think can't happen can exist and be realized. This kind of romantic psychological characteristics can also be realized and implemented in children's literature. Ji Xianlin, a master of Chinese learning, once recalled that his childhood reading gave him unlimited imagination space. In the world of children's literature, we can be integrated to achieve the state of selflessness [7].

Children's literature also needs to embody some new imagination that only children can have. Lu Xun once said that children were respectable, because they could imagine the realm above the stars and the moon, the situation below the ground, and the use of some flowers. For example, in Zhang Tianyi's "The Big Gray Wolf", there is a dialogue between the big gray wolf and his belly, saying, "Look at how much I'm shriveled? I want to eat sheep, no sheep! I want to eat cattle, no cattle! It's so unlucky to be a belly with you. It's better to be a belly of a little mouse!" Only children's literature can express in such a humorous way.

In Guo Moruo's View on Children's Literature, he also expounded the image of children's literature. Children's characters need to be and must be as clear as the autumn wind and the moon, not as white paper. He also believed that children's literature needed to be as clear as crystal ball gems, but cannot be like a piece of flat glass. Therefore, children's literature must have the objective laws of literature, as well as a strong value with a unique aesthetic characteristics. In addition, its development and existence educate and influence children with its unique language, which is also its lasting charm.

#### 4. Conclusion

Generally speaking, children's literature in the initial development period of our country mainly focused on translating foreign works, then self-creation, and then paid attention to children. Therefore, through the analysis of the development history of Chinese children's literature, we can see that in the process of creation, the basic aesthetic characteristics have been further strengthened and improved. In the future research process, we should take these basic aesthetic characteristics as the main support, strengthen the summary, comprehensively analyze its development trend in the new era of China, and then formulate scientific countermeasures to effectively guide, so as to ensure that children's literature can develop in a good direction.

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