

A Brief Analysis of the Writing Skills Used in Japanese Novel “the Grief Grocery Store”

Yiran Zhang

School of Economics& Management, Shanghai Maritime University, Shanghai, China

Zyrtg19@163.Com

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Abstract: as a Best-Selling Sign among Japanese Reasoning Writers in Recent Years, Higashino Keigo's Works Have Been Widely Adapted into Film and Television Works.

1. Introduction

In His Novel Creation, he is Good At Shaping Characteristic Characters, Setting Up Unique Events with Suspense, and Revealing Some Social Phenomena through the Interspersed of Multiple Clues. However, the Book “the Grief Grocery Store” is Completely Different from Its Usual Style. the Fantasy Space-Time Crisscross and the Narration of Multi-Characters Make the Novel Looks Peculiar . This Paper Analyzes the Book “the Grief Grocery Store” from Two Aspects: the Setting of Character Image and the Setting of Plot.

Higashino Keigo, Who is One of the Best-Seller Brand among Japanese Mystery Writers in Recent Years, Has Created a Lot of Excellent Works These Years. in His Novels, the Distinctive Characters and Strange Events with Suspense Are Always Admirable.It is Not Difficult to Find That the Current Mainstream Literature is Mainly Based on the Narrative Structure, the Selection of Main Material, the Marketing Strategy to Analyze the Novel “the Grief Grocery Store”.

2. Literature Review Section

First, the narrative structure. As a nonlinear structural novel, “The Grief Grocery Store” is characterized by the relative complexity of the structure of time and space. Multidimensional Time Structure Analysis of “The Grief Grocery Store” puts forward that the details of time, the images of characters and the repetition of events throughout the whole book in order to serve the main purpose of connecting the full text clues.[1] Through the spatial order, The Spatial narration of a time novel-Higashino Keigo's “The Grief Grocery Store” analyzes the novel in two physical spaces, the orphanage and the grocery store, so as to extend the theme to the Japanese society. [2] Through the analysis in An interpretation of Fantasy and reality about “The Grief Grocery Store”, Higashino Keigo extended the theme of novel to the elimination of letters in modern society, the meaning of communication between people, and the growth of juvenile delinquency by using the elements such as time and space crisscross, place setting, letter image and character connection.[3]

Second, the selection of main material. Existentialism interprets the background of the novel and the context of dialogue in “The Grief Grocery Store” from the perspective of existentialism.[4] In the paper “The analysis of Human Nature and Its practical significance”, it discusses the ways to realize self-value and the inevitable weakness in human nature.[5] On the other hand, the theme of Redemption points out that the core events of this book start with the relationship between people, end with the choice between dream and reality, and expound the theme of salvation.[6]

Third, the “The Grief Grocery Store” ,from “Higashino Keigo : how is the money Printing Machine in the Publishing Industry refined? “the analysis shows that Higashino Keigo integrated social microcosms and other non-native elements into the creation of mystery novels, thus arousing the interest of readers and then increasing sales.[7]

Some of his mystery novels focus on the disclosure of criminal motives, which shows the

relationship between people in society, by clarifying tricks and murderers. From “New Classic Book Brand Marketing Strategy Research-from Higashino Keigo's” “The Grief Grocery Store”, “The Grief Grocery Store” has showed its unique side in decoration design, new media marketing and so on, which has attracted the attention of readers. [8] In “the acceptance and dissemination of Higashino Keigo in China”, in shaping the female characters, evil women is the most famous style in his characters, and further reflects the society and human nature with the help of the storyline.[9]

3. The Analysis of Writing Skills

By comparing Higashino Keigo's other representative works with the novel “The Grief Grocery Store”, it is not difficult to find that this book has a unique style in the two aspects--characterization and plot setting.

First, the shaping of the characters. In the works of Higashino Keigo, in addition to some of the detective characters with clever features, the role modeling in several representative works often has a more templating feature. First of all, there is a very representative figure in his individual representative works, which is a non-traditional evil woman - the traditional meaning here is to achieve the purpose through violent means - but due to some objective incentives The distortion of her personality, after a series of indirect behaviors coupled with her own charm to achieve a more unconventional purpose, thus becoming a crime. A more typical example is Karasawa Yukiho in “Journey Under the Midnight Sun”, because of the malignant events that occurred in her childhood, which caused serious psychological trauma, and the superficial intelligence was unscrupulous. In the eyes of others, Karasawa Yukiho's “extracted temperament contains a heterogeneous light that does not exist in the world in which they live. And this heterogeneous light will never bring happiness to them.” Shinkai Mifuyu as a “evil woman” of the same type also has a homogenous description in “Magic Night”. “A horrible woman. She has not only a multi-faceted talent, but also a thing that can be called a devil. It seems to control everything about her. If you don't notice this and just want to touch that kind of thing, you will fall into her trap.”

Relatively speaking, some typical male characters are very planning and executive. They are stubborn and even paranoid. They are good at camouflage and work hard. These images often constitute most of the prisoner images in Higashino Keigo's novels. For example, in The Devotion of Suspect X, Ishikami Tetsuya regarded Yasuko Hanaoka and her daughter as the meaning of survival, and relied on his powerful calculation and ability to fool the police. In the book “Malice”, Nonoguchi Shu fooled the police by giving fake testimony constantly and ruined the life of Nikko Kunihiko, whom he hated.[10]

However, in the “The Grief Grocery Store”, takes Harumi Tamura and Yūji Namiya as an example. As a series of characters in this novel, Harumi Tamura is not only the protagonist of the fifth chapter “Prayers from Heaven”. The whole story is also caused by the thief trio misunderstanding that Harumi Tamura wants to acquire their orphanage. She has made two major changes in the whole article. The first time she turned into a career from the company staff to the bar girl by listening to the advice from Namiya General Store (actually this letter is applied by the thief trio), and then she worked tirelessly to become a successful woman. The second time, she realized that she might be too focused on the front because of the kidnapping incident. Similar to the female characters that Higashino Keigo is good at, Harumi Tamura is smart and has a high vision for the future. She is good at grasping opportunities and working hard to realize her dreams. Such a woman has also been confused by her dreams, and she has been harsh and self-reflective to others. At the same time, she has a strong observation ability. After the encounter with the thief trio, she can judge these three kids not to be extremely malicious by the behavior of them.

As a founder of the Namiya General Store, Yūji Namiya is also the man who replied the letter from Kawabe Midori, Kazuhisa Hiroyuki and the Thief trio. The wave of the heroic appearance of the game can be said to be the main clue throughout the text, unlike the detective characters in the type novel, the wave of the rule is not deified as a person with a very high IQ, he is more similar to an enthusiastic, with our daily life is close to existence. The wave of arrogance also has a high degree

of execution, even if it is a letter used by children, he also seriously answered, never letting go. The richness of his emotions will make him notice that he will not reply to the situation of Jiu Haosuke, and will also be thorny in the back of the butterfly effect caused by his reply.

In a distorted manner, the image of the evil woman who is fascinated by money, lust and power, and the male image that bears the weight and the unscrupulous means for a specific purpose, “The Grief Grocery Store” is more focused on portraying the “truthfulness and beauty” of the character's mind when shaping the characters. On the other hand, they also have excellent minds and experienced unusual life, but in the story they are hesitant to make a choice between reality and dream, and the multiplicity of thinking about the future and the present. The characters in this article are closer to the people we meet in daily life, so that readers can resonate with the stories made up of such characters.

Second, The way the plot is set. As a very provocative plot in the novel, death is often used as a common element in Japanese novel under the cultural background of “sorrow”. In most of the mystery novels of Higashino Keigo, death is often associated with reasoning puzzles in his works. The state of death, the use of weapons, and the composition of motives often portray a negative scenes which have a unique role in exposing the evil side of society and human nature. This kind of death is also used in various endings, and when the truth of the incident is clarified, the plot is led to a more negative reality. “There is something stuck in the chest of Kiri-hara. It is difficult to identify because of the blood, but it will be known at a glance. It is the scissors of Kiri-hara as a treasure, the scissors that change his life!” In “Journey Under the Midnight Sun”, Kiri-hara choose to sacrifice to protect the woman he loved, the weapon he used is the scissors which used to kill his father who is sexually invading Yukiho during her childhood. This is his unilateral ending for his own parasitic relationship with Yukiho. At this time, Yukiho did not show any sympathy to him. “She never looked back.”

But in the “The Grief Grocery Store”, the death behind some incidents always contain a good core. Kawabe Midori, Kawabe Midori's daughter, Mizukawa Seri, Seri's brother and Katsuro Matsuoka, these five people are connect by the fire accident and a car accident. In this article, the death of Katsuro Matsuoka is presented to the reader through a combination of illusion and reality, reappearing the scene of Katsuro Matsuoka's self-sacrifice to save others during the fire in orphanage. Rebirth echoes, symbolizing that his death continues the hopes of others. Similarly, Kawabe Midori's daughter has misunderstood that the death of her mother was suicide, but the truth of the fact was learned through the letters from the store. Almost everyone in the article is fighting against reality and dreams. The dead people are no longer a stumbling block in this article, but let the confused people gradually cross the hurdles in their hearts and have the meaning of hope for death. This description of death is not the first attempt of Higashino Keigo, and it is also reflected in his work “Times Life”, when the hero returned to the time 20 years ago with the time machine. And when there was a tunnel explosion, he not only saved his mother, but also tried to save more people and sacrificed at last.

In the “The Grief Grocery Store”, the ending is a unique interpretation of the meaning of a piece of white paper. The way of ending is to indirectly guide the three trio. The direction of the future, thus deepening the theme of healing the full text. What's more, this end surprise the reader, no sense of familiarity, and at the same time produce corresponding understanding. It is a semi-open ending. The thinking brought by this white paper is not only for thief trio, but also a rumor from the author. In this way, the author focuses on thinking about life, freedom, and dreams.

With the image of sacrifice and the writing technique of the blank, Higashino Keigo used to describe a tragedy in his past works, but in the “The Grief Grocery Store”, this sacrifice was sublimated to a kind of “self-thinking”. It is true that when people meet a dilemma, choice becomes a crucial turning point. When facing various propositions in life, what kind of will and attitude we should have become a problem that trouble our life as a person. With the image of death, this book implies the core of hope, and death here is the continuation of life. As we all said “we should never ignore death when we live”, people can have a better future with hope, and make important choices which bring differences during the journey of life, which is also the thinking brought by “The

Grief Grocery Store”.

4. Conclusion

To sum up, it is not difficult to draw a conclusion that in the writing of “The Grief Grocery Store”, Higashino Keigo has put goodwill elements on these characters. At the same time, it also focuses on the depiction of the image of sacrifice and the writing technique of the blank in the plot setting.

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