

A Comparative Analysis of the Aesthetic Ideal and Pursuit of Ying Ning and Lin Daiyu's Images

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Abstract: The purpose of this study is to deeply explore the aesthetic ideal and pursuit of Yingning in "Strange Stories from a Chinese Studio" and Lin Daiyu in "Dream of the red Mansions". Through text analysis, this paper analyzes in detail Ying's naive personality and her love for natural beauty, as well as Lin Daiyu's sensitive and delicate characteristics and her profound views on literature and art. The research shows that Yingning and Lin Daiyu represent two different aesthetic concepts, natural innocence and literature and art, respectively, and have unique values in their respective literary works. Yingning's innocence and optimistic attitude towards life provide modern society with a new perspective on natural beauty; Lin Daiyu's talent and tragic fate reflected the helplessness and struggle of women in feudal society, which triggered a profound reflection on human nature and society. This study not only enriches the study of female images in classical literature, but also provides useful reference for modern literary creation and aesthetic concepts.

1. Introduction

In China's classical literature, the female image has always been the object that writers are willing to shape and explore [1]. As two unique women in "Strange Stories from a Chinese Studio" and "Dream of the red Mansions" respectively, Yingning and Lin Daiyu are deeply loved and concerned by readers for their personality characteristics and aesthetic ideals [2]. The purpose of this study is to deeply explore the aesthetic ideals represented by these two literary images, analyze their shaping and connotation in their respective literary works, and then understand the differences and commonness of female images in different literary works. The topic selection will not only help us to better understand these two classical masterpieces, but also provide reference for the shaping of female images in modern literary creation.

Yingning is a very attractive female image in "Strange Stories from a Chinese Studio". She is famous for her innocent and unrestrained personality, and her beauty and innocence also leave a deep impression on people [3]. Lin Daiyu is one of the main characters in "Dream of the red Mansions". She is brilliant, sentimental, sensitive and intelligent in her personality, and her tragic fate makes readers cry [4].

The purpose of this study is to deeply explore the aesthetic ideals of Yingning and Lin Daiyu, and analyze their similarities and differences in personality, aesthetic performance and their relationship with the background of the times and personal circumstances. Specific research questions include: What are the aesthetic ideals of Yingning and Lin Daiyu? How do their aesthetic ideals relate to their respective personality characteristics and background of the times? What are the similarities and differences between them in aesthetic ideal?

2. An analysis of the aesthetic ideal of Yingning and Lin Daiyu

2.1. Yingning's aesthetic ideal

Yingning's personality is mainly naive, lively and cheerful. She is not bound by secular ethics and dares to express her true thoughts and feelings. Her aesthetic performance is mainly reflected in her love for natural beauty and her positive and optimistic attitude towards life [5]. Yingning's

aesthetic ideal is closely related to the background of her time. In feudal society, women were often bound by strict ethics, but Yingning resisted this bondage in her unique way and pursued freedom and truth [6]. Her aesthetic ideal embodies the rebellion against feudal ethics and the yearning for free life.

2.2. Lin Daiyu's aesthetic ideal

Lin Daiyu's personality is sensitive and delicate, and she has extremely high literary attainments and emotional expression ability. Her aesthetic performance is mainly reflected in her love of poetry and lyrics and her unique pursuit of beauty. In "Dream of the red Mansions", Lin Daiyu's poems not only express her inner emotions, but also show her unique views and pursuit of beauty [7]. As an orphan, she knows that the world is cold, so the pursuit of beauty has become her spiritual sustenance [8].

2.3. Similarities and differences between Yingning and Lin Daiyu's aesthetic ideals

What Yingning and Lin Daiyu have in common in their aesthetic ideals is that they both show their love and pursuit of beauty, and they both have keen perception and unique aesthetics in both natural beauty and poetry. However, there are also differences in their aesthetic ideals.

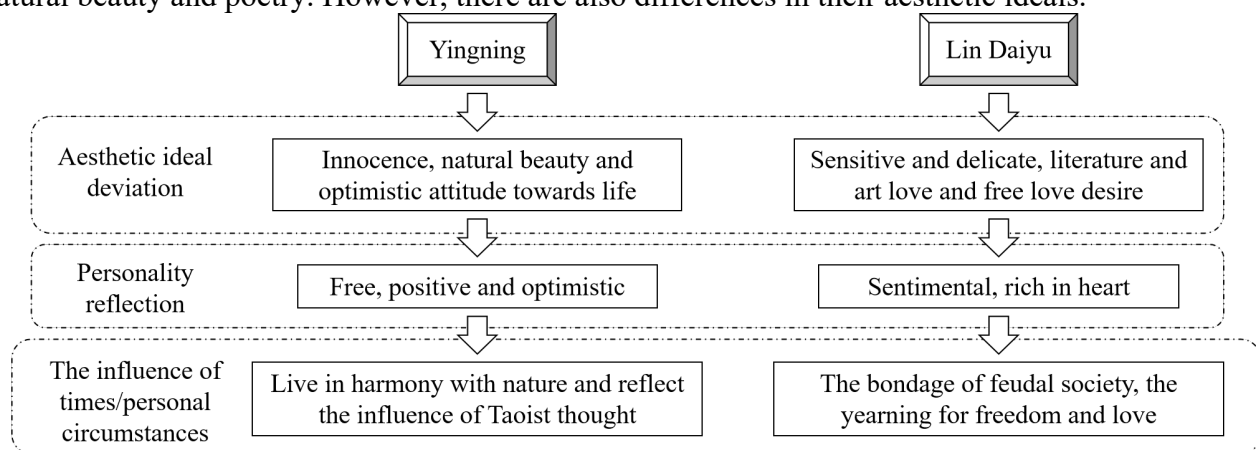


Figure 1 Comparison of aesthetic ideals between Yingning and Lin Daiyu

Figure 1: Yingning possesses a more ingenuous nature, evident in her profound admiration for natural elegance and her bright, hopeful perspective on life. Conversely, Lin Daiyu demonstrates a keen sensitivity and delicacy, which is showcased through her profound love for literature and art, as well as her aspiration for unfettered love. These disparities and parallels not only illustrate their contrasting personalities but also reveal the distinct impacts of their respective eras and personal situations.

3. A comparative analysis of the aesthetic pursuit of Yingning and Lin Daiyu

3.1. Yingning's aesthetic pursuit

Yingning's aesthetic pursuit is fully reflected in the text of "strange stories from a Chinese studio". With her naive and unrestrained personality, she showed her love for natural beauty and positive and optimistic attitude towards life [9]. Her perception of the surrounding environment is delicate and profound, and she is good at discovering and appreciating the beauty in life. In the story, Yingning often lives in nature, keeps company with flowers and birds, and enjoys the gift of nature. This close contact with nature is the embodiment of her aesthetic pursuit.

Yingning's aesthetic pursuit is closely related to China's traditional culture. Her naive and unrestrained character embodies the Taoist thought of "governing by doing nothing" and "Taoism is natural". At the same time, her love for natural beauty is also consistent with the idea of "harmony between man and nature" in China's traditional culture. In the traditional culture of China, man and nature should live in harmony and interact with each other, so as to achieve the unity of man and nature. Yingning's lifestyle is a vivid embodiment of this thought.

3.2. Lin Daiyu's aesthetic pursuit

In the literary masterpiece "Dream of the red Mansions", Lin Daiyu's aesthetic pursuit is vividly depicted. She is thoughtful and emotional, not only has profound literary accomplishment, but also has excellent emotional communication skills. Her poems are not only a true portrayal of her inner feelings, but also reflect her unique understanding and eager yearning for beauty. Lin Daiyu is good at using poetry to pour out her heart. Her search for beauty is not only manifested in her enthusiasm for literature and art, but also deeply rooted in her longing for a happy life and her desire for sincere love.

Lin Daiyu's pursuit of beauty is inseparable from her personality and emotional world. As a foster girl with a lonely life, she deeply experienced the warmth and coldness of the world, which made her pursuit of beauty a spiritual support and comfort. Between the lines of her poems, she reveals her hope for a better life and yearning for free love, and this persistent pursuit just reflects her unique personality and deep feelings.

3.3. Comparison and analysis of aesthetic pursuit between Yingning and Lin Daiyu

Yingning and Lin Daiyu have similarities and obvious differences in aesthetic pursuit, as shown in Table 1.

Table 1 Comparison of similarities and differences in aesthetic pursuit between Yingning and Lin Daiyu

	Yingning	Lin Daiyu
Common ground	Love and pursuit of beauty	Love and pursuit of beauty
Perception of natural beauty	In "strange stories from a Chinese studio", Yingning is often in the nature, enjoying the wild flowers and weeds, and enjoying the beauty and gifts of nature.	In "Dream of the red Mansions", Lin Daiyu has a deep perception and appreciation of the beautiful scenery of the Grand View Garden, such as her sentimentality about fallen flowers, which reflects her keen perception of natural beauty.
Appreciation of poems and songs	Although there is no specific poetry creation, Yingning's pure character and optimistic attitude can be regarded as a poetic pursuit of life.	Lin Daiyu wrote many beautiful poems, such as "Peach Blossom Song", which reflected her profound understanding of literature and art and unique aesthetic view.
Differences	Innocence, love for natural beauty	Sensitive and delicate, love of literature and art
Embodiment of beauty	In the story, Yingning's smile and carefree personality reflect her positive and optimistic attitude towards life.	Lin Daiyu's poems often contain the desire for free love, such as "Burying the Fallen Flowers", which reveals the helplessness and expectation of love.
Specific examples	Yingning is accompanied by flowers and birds in the story, and her laughter is as clear as a silver bell, which reflects her love and optimism about life.	Lin Daiyu's deep affection with Jia Baoyu in "Dream of the red Mansions", as well as her persistent and sensitive heart for love, all reflect her desire and pursuit for love.
Associated factors	Personality characteristics such as innocence, unrestrained, and the importance of harmonious coexistence with nature in the background of the times.	The sensitivity and delicacy of personality and emotion, as well as the limitation of women's status in feudal society, made her have a stronger yearning for freedom and love.

What they have in common: both of them show their love and pursuit of beauty, and they have keen perception and unique aesthetics in both natural beauty and poetry. However, there are also differences in their aesthetic pursuit. Difference: Yingning's pursuit of aesthetics appears more ingenuous, with her allure stemming primarily from her profound affection for natural elegance and her upbeat approach to life. This charm is intricately tied to her personal traits and the historical context she finds herself in. Conversely, Lin Daiyu's aesthetic aspirations are marked by sensitivity and intricacy, with her beauty emanating from her passion for literature, art, and her yearning for

unfettered love, echoing the imprint of her personality, sentiments, and surroundings. These parallels and deviations not only highlight their contrasting personalities but also underscore the varying impacts of their respective eras and personal situations.

4. The aesthetic and aesthetic significance of Yingning and Lin Daiyu images

4.1. The aesthetic and aesthetic significance of Yingning's image

As a unique female image in "Strange Stories from a Chinese Studio", Yingning's innocent and unrestrained personality and love for natural beauty add a different color to her works. Her image makes readers feel the beauty and innocence of life, and at the same time triggers readers' yearning for freedom and truth. Yingning's image has unique value in literary works. She represents the truest and purest side of human nature, which makes readers feel the baptism and purification of the soul in reading.

Yingning's image not only has unique value in literary works, but also has profound practical significance and social enlightenment. In today's society, people are often troubled by secular disturbances and lose their inner innocence and freedom. Yingning's image reminds us to keep a childlike innocence, pursue inner freedom and truth, and not be bound by the secular. Her lifestyle and attitude also inspire us to cherish the beauty of life and face the challenges of life positively and optimistically.

4.2. The aesthetic and aesthetic significance of Lin Daiyu's image

As one of the main characters in "Dream of the red Mansions", Lin Daiyu's brilliant, sentimental personality and tragic fate make readers deeply sympathize and regret. Her image has a unique value and position in literary works. She represents the helplessness and struggle of women in feudal society, and also shows the complexity and versatility of human nature. Lin Daiyu's poems and emotional expressions have also made her an immortal artistic image in literary works.

Lin Daiyu's image has a far-reaching influence on later literature and readers. Her brilliant and sentimental personality has become one of the models of female images in later literature, and many literary works have been influenced by her. At the same time, her tragic fate also caused readers to think deeply about the fate of women. Lin Daiyu's image is not only a literary image, but also a cultural symbol. Her image makes readers pay more attention to the fate and status of women, and also causes readers to deeply reflect on human nature.

5. Conclusions

This study reveals the unique aesthetic ideal and pursuit of the two female images through the in-depth analysis of Yingning and Lin Daiyu. Yingning, with its naivety and love for natural beauty, shows a natural and pure aesthetic concept; Lin Daiyu, on the other hand, embodies his profound understanding and pursuit of literature, art and life emotion through his sensitive mind and outstanding literary talent. Although they have different personalities, they both represent different forms of beauty and persistent pursuit of beauty.

As classic female images in classical literature, Yingning and Lin Daiyu not only enriched the figure gallery of literary works, but also provided the later generations with diversified understanding and pursuit of beauty. Yingning's innocence and nature have influenced people's understanding of natural beauty and attitude towards life, while Lin Daiyu's talent and tragic fate have deepened the reflection on the complex aspects of human nature and social reality. Their images have left a deep imprint in the history of literature, and have had a far-reaching impact on later literary creation and aesthetic concepts.

Although this study comprehensively analyzes the aesthetic ideal and pursuit of Yingning and Lin Daiyu, there are still some limitations. Future research can further explore the differences in the interpretation of these two female images in different cultural backgrounds, and how they affect the aesthetic appreciation of readers in different times. In addition, the research scope can be extended to the female images in other classical literary works, so as to enrich and perfect the study of female

images in China classical literature.

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