

" War" in Children's Novels and " Children" in War narrative

— A comparison of the two creative fevers of Chinese children's war novels since the 20th century

Abstract

Looking back on the history of Chinese children's literature, there have been two obvious fevers in the creation of war novels. The first creative fever occurred in the early days of the founding of new China (1949 - 1966), during this period , war novels were the mainstream of children's literature creation, and war narrative had the lingering influence of revolutionary victory, showing grand, optimistic and collective narrative characteristics. In the text, children mostly appeared as " little heroes" and carrying the imagination of the nation state. In the 21st century, based on the era context of the 70th anniversary of the Anti - Japanese War and the reflection of some writers on the tendency of children's literature to be clear and shallow, war novels have ushered in a second fever of creation. Since the new century, the war narrative has shown a tendency to be folk and personal, and " children's imagination" has also moved from creating " little heroes" to writing about ordinary children in the war. This paper compares the two creation fevers from the perspectives of narrative perspective, narrative strategy, creative style, writer's historical view and children's view, trying to answer the difference

between the two in writing " war" and imagining " wartime childhood".In addition, try to dicuss what are the benefits of changing the writing style of war novels in shaping children's view of war and activating their empathy.

Key words: children's war novel; Creation fever; War narrative; Childhood imagination; empathy