小說鑒史:《康梁演義》的反維新書寫 與晚清文化圖景

宋雪

《康梁演義》是一部戊戌變法後以保守視角演繹維新史事的通俗小說,先後至少 有六個題名、十三個版本,在清末民初行銷甚廣。作為一部時事小說,其所演人物 多是晚清政治舞臺上的重要角色,不少情節有所依傍,敍事打通仙界與人間、中土 與異域,將「當代史事」文學化,形構出虛實之間的小說天地。《康梁演義》採用舊小 說體式和保守立場,以政治鬧劇作輿論宣傳,在藝術上並不成功,但其中西學的滲 透和矛盾的觀念,反映出傳統士子在清季變局中的複雜心態;在笑謔、反諷和荒誕 敍事背後,也從反面凸顯出維新的實績。本文系統考證小說版本和故事材源,梳理 《康梁演義》的敍事框架與思想脈絡,通過文學對歷史的多維解讀,體察維新時代政 治、社會、文化的多元面向。

關鍵詞:《康梁演義》 晚清小説 戊戌維新 康有為

宋雪,北京大學中國語言文學系博雅博士後,助理研究員

From Fiction to History: The Anti-Reform Writing in Kang Liang yanyi and the Cultural Landscape of the Late Qing

Song Xue^{*}

Kang Liang yanyi is a popular novel that narrates the historical events of the Reform Movement of 1898 from the conservative vantage point. With at least six titles and thirteen editions in its genesis and circulation, the novel was among the best-selling books during the final years of the Qing dynasty and the early Republican era. As a novel on contemporary issues, the majority of its characters played an important role in the political arena, and many of its scenes had a certain factual basis. The novel's narrative and storyline take place in a large variety of realms: fairyland and the human world, the Middle Kingdom and exotic places, etc. Through a fictional form of "contemporary history," the novel constructs a fictional world between the imaginary and the real. With its conservative stance and old-school writing style, this novel employs political farce for propagandistic purposes. This did not prove to be successful from an artistic point of view. However, the complex mentality of old-fashioned scholars in an age of transition was revealed in the permeation of and conflicts between Chinese and Western knowledge and concepts. Behind the laughter, irony, and an absurd narrative, the achievements of the Reform Movement were shown. The present article offers a detailed examination of the versions of the novel, the sources used in the plot, as well as the narrative framework and ideological context. Through this multi-dimensional literary interpretation of history, I discuss the diverse political, social, and cultural aspects of that era.

Keywords: *Kang Liang yanyi* late Qing fiction the Hundred Days' Reform (1898) Kang Youwei

Song Xue, Boya Postdoctoral Fellowship, Assistant Researcher, Department of Chinese Language and Literature, Peking University