

## The Artistic Appreciation of Chi Li's Novel "Don't Talk about Love"

Yang Luxi

Yibin, Vocational & Technical College, Sichuan, Yibin 644001, China

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**Abstract:** "Don't talk about love" is one of Chi Li's "The trilogy of a human life" series, with a strong realistic style. In the works, the light of love ideals is swept away, and the daily and secularized methods are used to express their own intangible love connotation, showing a strong female consciousness.

### 1. Introduction

Love has been an eternal topic of literary creation since ancient times. Every writer has his own interpretation and cognition of love. Chi Li's literary creation on love by means of "new realism" has a conception which is free from vulgarity, a unique opinion and thought-provoking ideas. Many of Chi Li's literary love creation are based on the principle of "demolition of illusory love", using a unique way of thinking to uncover the mysterious veil of love to unravel the flashy back of love to explore its original face to give people in the real world a new understanding. Through dialysis and deconstruction of the author's unique concept of love, this paper explores the essence of love that Chi Li believes, and makes an artistic appreciation analysis on her view point of love, view of marriage and gender understanding, exploring the female consciousness that the author wants to express. Excuse me for my following humble opinion.

### 2. About the author

The poet describes love in romantic terms. The lingering and melancholy love in novels often appears that nobody is aware of how true love has come into occurrence with exception of its going deeper and deeper, but deep in each other. Chi Li used the misleading statement of "Don't talk about love" to guide readers to misunderstanding the content of the work, thinking that this does not involve love. But when we read the work carefully, we can easily find that this is just a joke for us made by the author. There is love everywhere in the novel. It subversively interprets the essence of love in the first love stage, and proposes that love is attached to life, it attaches great importance to reality and is rooted in the trivial details of reality. Once faced with the impact of cruel reality, it can retreat about thirty miles as a condition for peace. And it is not said to be as beautiful and noble as described in other traditional literary works.

In Chi Li's work, she likes to tell people in a near-cruel way that marriage has nothing to do with love. The ideal of love is completely negated because she thinks that it is not authentic and too illusory. In turn, she recognizes the continuity of secular marriage and pursues an alternative philosophy of survival that is "worry about life." She advocates the use of chasing love to save love and engrave love in a critical way. This bold and forward-thinking ideology can't help but make people curious about her work. From this alternative point of view, different distinctive female images are created to express the consciousness of the survival value of modern women that they want to express.

### 3. About "Don't talk about love"

When Chi Li wrote "Don't talk about love", she proposed to debunk the theme of eternal love in traditional literary works, and expounded that love is the most eternal in all things. It is painstaking to set up the love plot between Zhuang Jianfei and Ji Ling. First, let the heroes and heroines

experience the sweetness of first love, make them meet under the romantic cherry blossom trees in Wuhan, and a Freudian love story ignites the flame of love between each other. The heroes and heroines attract each other because of their unique personality charms. After many obstructions, they finally get married through their own hardships. This gives readers the illusion that love is sublime and great. It can break through some secular concepts and should be praised. We should believe in love. However, the development of the next story gives people a loud slap in the face. It is too ironic, so that we have doubts about the unforgettable love between the hero and heroine. Because such an unforgettable love collapsed under the influence of a small matter.

When the hero discovers the real environment of his wife's life, his heart is full of entanglements. The huge difference in living environment and concept, the contradictions and conflicts between the parents of the two sides prompted the two to have cracks in their marriage and developed into the reason for quarreling with each other. No one persuaded, no one try to stop them from fighting each other. Love has been completely changed in front of all this. There is no such thing as lingering sentiments and carry each other. And there are too many complaints and accusations. Life begins to fall into the mud, and they torment each other for the continuation of life. People can't afford love. The contradictions in life make it ridiculous and embarrassing to talk about love again. They are delighted for deeply attracted and attached to each other, but it will eventually come to naught. It seems that the love between each other is reasonable, but in fact it is mixed with more chance and reality.

The hero's sister, Zhuang Jianya, has been over thirty years old, but she has no ideological consciousness. She still holds unrealistic thoughts about life and love, stays in the girlish dream, and makes herself stay in the illusory ideal world for a long time, looking for a unreliable love dream. It makes her seem especially ridiculous and ignorant in the ruthless real life.

#### **4. Interpretation of love in Chi Li's "Don't talk about love"**

"Don't talk about love" is for Chi Li, but love is everywhere in the works. But It's just about the realistic love in material life, not the so-called "true love" that involves the spiritual level. As a representative of the new realism, she has strict secular narrative techniques in her novel creation to make love maximize the relevance of life and becomes more rough and lively. The civic culture is used to explain the worldly life and to eulogize living in secular ways. At the same time, she strives to advocate the "existence" philosophy, and approves that it is the performance of the powerhouse to have the ability and courage to survive in this difficult world. Because it is a realistic creative concept, Chi Li is not like the women who are used to dreaming. In other words, she consciously avoids fantasy and dreams, strictly reflecting life in accordance with the original appearance of life, deliberately avoiding or reducing her own interference in the narrative of the works, and keeping the narrative in a purely objective direction. With the dignified realistic style, her works show the constant annihilation of love in the flourishing things, the hardships of life and the humility of life. Living in life is only talked about. Talking about love or not, we all can find its trail in the finely broken life. In this way, love is not poetic, the true and fragile of it are more revealed, emphasizing the true revealing of the individual's inner feelings, especially focusing on socialized life experience. Love is the eternal theme of literary works. People regard it as the most holy emotion, so it is often rumored and praised by being immersed in literary and artistic works. Since ancient times, people have used the best words to praise it: Even if there is more suffering in life, it can be overcome by love with perseverance. If the material richness in life lacks the participation of love, everything is meaningless, just like the walking dead. In this rendering and eulogizing, love in traditional literature is full of romantic flavor and ideal color. But when it came to Chi Li, she departed from the normal behavior to break the myth of love. Using her own experience to integrate her own unique literary perspective to completely deconstruct love. There is no political discourse or ideal love in the works. In the whole chapter of "Don't Talk about Love", the author intentionally reveals the brilliant and splendid disillusionment of love. Love is like a meteor, disappearing too quickly. After the flame of passion burned out, it began to cool down into another emotion with the tempering of real life. What the author wants to expose is sacred and sublime. She reveals passion

and ideals. Apparently, she exchanged pain for the care of all living beings through her own will, and accepted criticism from the outside world without flinching.

In the novel "Don't talk about love", Chi Li discards the aura of roses overlaid on love, expounding the most authentic love present state in life. The love world in the article is neither tender feelings in inextricable and commiserative, nor so much heartfelt deep sincere feelings. The so-called "don't talk about love" is actually an attitude of the author to observe the world of love, revealing the illusion of "love" in real life. In the novel, the heroes and heroines seem to be committed to love. In the process of experiencing love, grinding-in, marriage, quarreling and getting back together, their love is dominated by their own instinct desires, and is trampled back and forth under the rules and regulations of real life principles. Ji Ling chose Zhuang Jianfei not only simply because she loved Zhuang Jianfei, but also because of her pursuit of interests, that is, to change her civilian identity in Hualou Street with the help of Zhuang Jianfei's knowledge and family background. This kind of love that weighs the pros and cons may be the most true love face, but also the most realistic "breath." After all, the real dilemma is that individuals are unable to control and grasp, and their own abilities can not completely change anything. Therefore, "love" can only shun in the face of the real world. Chi Li's love story in this context has no love color in the meaning of famous works, and more returns to real life. It is rooted in the law of real existence and hidden in the heart. Just like a red magma flow flowing under a volcano, it cannot be ignored because it does not erupt. Perhaps from perspective of the appearance, Chi Li's novel does not go too far into the discussion of love, or even some avoids love, shielding the spiritual pursuit. However, erasing the surface to examine the deep content, it is not difficult to find out when the characters face the challenges in material life, or when they are manipulated by others, it can be perceived that the unimportant people' unremitting pursuit of romantic poetry. And this also becomes the desire of the unimportant people to cope with the gloomy picture of life. People are biased about the hero of the novel Zhuang Jianfei's attitude towards marriage. Many people think that Zhuang Jianfei is only married to meet the needs of sexual desire. But is that really the case? Does the hero have no desire for the innocence and beauty of love in his heart? The answer is yes. Because in his heart, there is always a desire and hope for romantic poetic love. It can be seen clearly from his choice of Ji Ling. Encounter a lover under such a romantic cherry tree, the atmosphere is so wonderful, the charm of the beautiful woman is so irresistible, so that he was deeply touched, thus leaving a deep impression on Ji Ling. These descriptions cannot be seen as "no love" but full screen love. These settings can be regarded as the author's intentional action and the reflection of the author's unique thinking about love.

In the novel "Don't Talk about Love", Mei Ying's appearance makes the love in the novel more reality. Although she is much older than the hero Zhuang Jianfei, or even is able to be a mother, her the romantic pursuit of love is no less than that of the hero and heroine, or even in some ways beyond the hero. Instead of repressing her physiological needs because of the particularity of her position caused by her unfair relationship with Zhuang Jianfei, she dared to seek physiological satisfaction. And while seeking to be satisfied, she never thought about giving up her family. This is the ideological consciousness that modern intellectual women should have. Don't compromise on your own established life, take love as part of the life pursuit, be aware of what you want, and strive to pursue what you want and work tirelessly. Chi Li's love and marriage novel interprets a "quasi-tragedy" in the emotional world. However, she does not blindly immerse in lamenting the loss of love. Instead, she approves the unsurpassed reality in a peaceful, warm, and sensible way. Perhaps it is also mixed with appreciative meaning, in order to describe the emotional scenes in real life. And let us believe that on the stage of life, everyone will play some tragic roles some times. And this is inevitable. Well, in this case, modern people should learn to actively explore and think about themselves, and strive to find a way to win in the chaotic and complicated realistic environment. Rather than dying for love being as silly as a traditional tragic love myth and living meaninglessly.

## **5. Conclusion**

The female writer Chi Li's cognition and thinking about love is different from other authors of the same type of writing. The works she created are intended to show and highlight the self-liberation of women and their full experience of gender. The focus of the work is to explore and examine the growth process and living conditions of men and women at different stages of development. With the new realistic creation method, starting from the concept of "Don't talk about love", she narrated many distinct and strongly representative literary works, which are thought-provoking. Chi Li's works reflect many ideological consciousness that only modern women can be with, and strive to explore and dig how women can show their own vitality and creativity under the patriarchal ideology. She emphasizes the individual consciousness of women, the sense of maternal love, and advocates that women must have a new concept of love, have their own clear pursuit of value, and learn to make unremitting efforts for it. In this regard, it is very realistic, and it is also not highlighted and explored in other similar works.

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