

## **Analysis of "Utopia" Narration in Verne's science fiction**

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**Keywords:** Verne; science fiction; Utopia; utopian socialism

**Abstract:** As a famous contemporary science fiction novelist in France, Jules Verne is hailed as "the father of modern science fiction", he has created nearly a hundred novels in his life, most of which are science novels, his science works have been widely translated around the world, and it has millions of readers. Over the years, the study about Verne's science fictions involves many aspects in the academic circle, but it rarely mention the "Utopia" narrative exhibited in his science works. Science fiction is a kind of narrative form combined with the development of modern scientific theory, and the future world in the narrative frequently has a special utopian energy. This thesis is based on Verne's science fiction Trilogy and his biographical information to describe the "Utopia" of Verne's science fiction, It is divided into three parts: Verne and science fiction, Utopia, the "Utopia" in the science fiction. The three parts are used to describe and analyze the "utopia" in Verne's science fiction Trilogy.

### **1. Introduction**

At present, the study of Verne science fiction covers many aspects and fields, but there is not too much about the "utopian" phenomenon in Verne science fiction. Verne had a fantasy of utopian socialism during the creation of science fiction, and even built a miniature utopia in the novel, but he did not ignore the scientific factors, so "utopia" is also a flash in the pan. This paper describes the short-term "utopian" phenomenon in Verne's science fiction from the development of Utopia and the writing idea of Verne's science fiction (Verne Trilogy), specifically explained from three aspects: Verne and science fiction, utopia, Verne science fiction in the "utopian" narrative.

### **2. Verne and science fiction**

Verne, full name Jules Gabriel Verne (French: Jules Gabriel Verne, 1828.2.8-1905.3.24), French novelist, playwright, one of the important pioneers of modern science fiction. Verne life in the pen does not match the creation, in its lifetime created nearly 100 scientific fantasy works, including sixty-four long science fiction, the total number of words to millions, with his numerous works and outstanding contributions, he is regarded as the father of modern scientific fiction". As the knowledge of Verne is very rich in reserves, many of his works have a scientific basis, so that the illusion of the time, but now has become an unusually interesting prediction. Verne's main work is roughly summarized, involving two backgrounds: the late nineteenth century the world and the imagination of the world. [1]

Verne was born in Nantes, France, a lawyer family, but he grew up on the sailing has a very strong interest. Precisely because of this, it will deeply affect his future creation. Childhood, he had endless fantasy on the sea, had privately went to a boat to do trainee sailors, trying to ship to the sea, but the last was found to be back to the family, from being severely guarded, he was to

their parents to ensure that Later only "lying in bed in fantasy travel". [2]

In 1847 he was sent to Paris to study law. But he was not interested in the law, after learning for some time the law, he found himself on the literature and drama had a strong interest, inspired his enthusiasm. At the end of 1850, his first play was published. After that, Verne's father learned that his son did not continue to study the law, for this Verne was severely reprimanded, his father cut off the life of Verne funding. Based on this, Verne only relies on writing to maintain base life.

Verne's first novel, "The Five Seasons on Balloons," was completed during his French studies, and it took him a long time to study a great deal of literature. After that, he began to try to publish the book, but the process is not ideal. There are more than a dozen publishers have refused to Verne, repeatedly ran into the Verne under the anger of the manuscript all burned, fortunately his wife saved the manuscripts back, and finally, finally a publishing house Agreed to publish this book. After the time, Verne continued to embark on this hard work of the road, and to work hard.

What is science fiction? So far there is no clear definition, it was said that it belongs to the children's literature. This is not the case, because most of its readers are adults, like some scary science fiction, not suitable for younger readers. Some people say that it belongs to the list of fantasy literature, although bold but cut the facts. Science fiction began with the fantasy inseparable, although the final has a certain scientific composition, but is always the product of fantasy breeding. Wu Yan in the "on the concept of science fiction" wrote "science fiction definition of the difficulty, mainly from the science fiction is a cross-category, extremely rich in the extensional literary works, and as the basis of the existence of such works - science, itself does not define the boundaries. "[3] We can say that in the history of science fiction, science fiction has not been a standard recognized by all recognized.

"Sci-fi fiction may be philosophically naïve, morally simple, somewhat subjective or rough in aesthetics, but it's the best of it," said the famous American literary critic Ihab Hassan. In terms of it, it seems to have touched the neural hub of the collective dream of mankind, liberating some of the illusions that we have in this machine. "[4] This is a good interpretation, which clearly points out that the science fiction Features, and it also emphasizes the importance of fantasy in science fiction "in terms of its best."

The development of fantasy novels must mention the utopian nature of the work. Speaking of utopia, we naturally can think of Campanella's "Sun City", Thomas Moore's "Utopia" and other dozens of works. These utopian socialists are dissatisfied with the shortcomings of the real social system and are struggling to find an ideal social model in order to achieve equality, equality of the rich and the poor and personal freedom. They feel that, at the time of the level of productivity and material technology under the premise of their fantasy congress into reality.

As for the ancient Greek fantasy novel, rich in content, the number of large, diverse styles, mostly with mythological fiction. The Greek history of the "real history", this book is written to the moon a voyage. And the "group of birds" by Aristotelian, written as a fictional utopia and so on, most of the good wishes are pinned on such fantasy works.

To the Renaissance, modern science predecessors are mushrooming out of the ground, which is worth mentioning is astronomy, these scientists have completely shaken the foundation of Western theocracy. And their results, but also for the fantasy novel provide a broad free space for growth.

Medieval many European countries, capitalist industry and commerce began to develop rapidly. Each coastal country has opened up foreign markets, overseas adventure, geographical discovery gradually formed a wave, and the beginning of Columbus found the American continent, with the

frequent exchanges of various countries, describing the travel knowledge and adventure of this kind of work to the fantasy novels to enter a new vitality.

Fantasy novels, that is, science, utopia and geography of the intersection of three points, it is on this background that a new novel (science fiction) appears in people's minds. Science is such a basic factor: it provides a theoretical basis for those things that were originally just fantasy. But the science into the novel, you must in the seventeenth and eighteenth century after the development of natural science. During that period, many imagined travels and predicted future stories, using very little practical knowledge of science. In my opinion, Verne is different from the most basic characteristics of other writers, is that he is good at using scientific information. Vermeer's first novel, "The Five Seasons on Balloons," is a good example of how he used modern science for his own fantasy career in that long career.

### **3. Utopias**

The word "utopia" was originally in Western society, so the question of "utopian" was mentioned and discussed by the majority of the people. As early as the "ideal country" in a book, Plato mentioned and in the content to show a harmonious society, the ideal model. He believes that this ideal model, although difficult to achieve in reality, but it is more realistic than the reality of the existence of it exists in the hearts of people. In the book "Utopian Thought History", some people think that in the face of social unreasonable reality, the same can see the situation, and can outline the ideal of social vision. This "utopian" thought was raised before Plato, even earlier.

Idealized social picture in some of the creation of "utopian" people seem impossible to achieve, it is impossible "utopia" is the beginning from the Greek. "Uruguay" means no, "Toba" means the place, "utopia" is "no place". "Utopia" and "fantasy" gradually become synonymous. The so-called utopia is "no place" or "good place", the original author is the ancient Greek philosopher Plato. The imaginative founder of socialism Thomas Moore in his book "utopia" in the fictional a navigator (Raphael) inadvertently sailed to a strange foreign exotic "utopia" seen and heard. Where the people are equal, the property is public, the social implementation of the principle of on-demand distribution, the official is elected by public, and all is the ideal of the product. [5]

The "utopian socialism" of the early Western society is like "utopia", which can be described as one of the most beautiful societies in human ideology. A scholar of the West made it in the meantime: like the paradise, everyone is equal, beautiful, without slaves and oppression. It is like a fantasy socialist society. [6]

Can be portrayed, and thus put into reality. But they are not just imagining or teasing right and wrong. As in the Plato "ideal country", to expand the description of a concept, to build the concept of the ideal social groups in the form, to show the nature of the concept. In some works, such as Thomas Moore's "utopia", its goal is mainly ironic and critical, the Utopian good people and then the social evil for comparison, and then to condemn the latter.

The transition from space to time also makes Utopia a new realism in its process. Utopia at this time in the history of drift, but no matter how far away from the utopia, it may be able to show: the human cannot but to it to develop another scene. [7]

### **4. "Utopian" narrative in Verne science fiction**

Verne trilogy in the third "Mysterious Island" began to open the door to the story, the story occurred in the United States during the Civil War. The atmosphere of sincere friendship between

the protagonists of the novel is in stark contrast to the situation of mutual killing during the war. The equality and harmonious coexistence in the text also contrasts with the real society of slavery. From which we can clearly see that the author's care and thought.

"Mysterious Island" seems to be specially prepared for the victims in advance. Inside the scene of the animals and plants all over the world have moved, and almost all the mineral deposits around the world are brought to the desert island up, [9] it is so eclectic. Like Verne in this broad knowledge of the great writer, no matter what must be strict demands on their own, but these are the creation of "absurd".

In fact, this is also Verne's originality. He put all the good things into it, adding his own fantasy. This is his deliberate construction of the micro-world: he put the mysterious island as a microcosm of the world. So, Verne's mysterious island is a miniature utopian society, a miniature ideal country. Verne's friends, and the influence of the socialists on him, are undoubtedly great and far-reaching. If we say that Verne's utopian socialism is very clear, there is nothing wrong with it, but we can at least think that utopian socialism is a better ideal, and this with his "freedom, the sea and music" Ideals also have more similarities. At the same time, we should also see that a person who dares to practice is often more brilliant than a man who will only be fantastic. Those pioneers of socialism are slightly inferior to Verne.

"Utopia" phenomenon in the Verne trilogy in the first and second embodiment is very weak, in the third part there is a clear show. The peak period of Verne's creation is the completion of the Verne trilogy. Also marked the creation of Verne's art to an unprecedented height, in terms of language and he has admired some of the writers "comparable." At the same time, the trilogy also fully reflects the author Verne positive, progressive and world outlook and outlook on life. [8] The contents of the trilogy can be a brief understanding, and works expressed in the ideological values are worth pondering.

The Verne trilogy from the miserable world of colonialism to the people against oppression, and then to the future of the ideal world, is like Verne's mentality. This trilogy constitutes an orderly whole, interlocking, showing a long scroll of history, but also reflects the contradictions faced by the nineteenth century world: colonialism and national liberation. And "utopian" society, that is, utopian socialism, before the perfection of the ideal system of scientific socialism, it has been the highest expectation and the best of many good people.

## **5. Conclusion**

This article mainly describes the connotations of the "utopian" in Verne science fiction, combined with the creative background and life of Verne, from the Verne and science fiction, Utopia, Verne science fiction and "utopian" narrative three Part of the construction, on the Verne science fiction "Utopia" phenomenon there is still much room for the study, in view of the author of shallow knowledge, mastery of the material and the ability to control the problem is limited, so only some preliminary exploration, I hope to pass The paper to achieve the effect of initiate.

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