

# The new construction of "Soul Wearing" fantasy love drama under the theme of "Crossing" in China

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**Abstract:** *Since the "through" subject matter limited, the creator has been looking for a new set to similar structure of the story, now it seems that the "soul wear drama" took over the historical responsibility, wonderful degree is even better. Based on the analysis of "I Want to See You" and "Twinkle twinkle Little Star", this paper explores the narrative level of "Soul Wears drama" : it is a mixture of genre elements, innovation and emotional core; Audience level: break through audience's "vision of expectation" and film empathy mechanism; Production level: detail setting.*

**Keywords:** *narrative; TV series; "Soul Wear drama"*

"Through" more from the natural science level argument for a phenomenon across time and space, on the feasibility of this situation, people may have different social, science cannot explain the rationality of the "crossing" from the Angle of rationality, aiming at this phenomenon, various artists began subtly from perceptual aesthetic characteristic of art, the scientific community can't use the rational explanation of "crossing" clever fiction, He has created many works of art with the theme of "crossing through", which is a symbol of The Times.

As early as 1990, the marriage and family drama "Back to Unmarried" became the first time travel drama in The history of Hong Kong, and also the "pioneering work" of Domestic time travel drama.<sup>[1]</sup>In 2011, with the broadcast of "Palace" and "Bu Bu Jing Xin", two TV dramas themed on "time travel" in The Qing Dynasty in mainland China, "Time travel" has already formed a genre, which is favored by more and more audiences, especially young groups. From 2019 to 2022, through drama and a wave of "new wave", continuously adjust its narrative mode and the kernel spirit to maintain its activity, no longer used in the traditional sense of natural science can explain the "crossing", "sky" back to the ancient stories such as structure, but by a "medium" objects "soul" of the meaning.

On December 1, 2011, shunyi held in the "2011 TV drama shooting production record publicity management training class", the news said that from January 1, 2012, the administration will ban the palace drama, involved dramas, time travel dramas on the star channel prime time broadcast. In his report to the China TV Drama Directors' Committee, Li Jingsheng pointed out that time-travel dramas only want to be fun, novel and weird, with unimaginative characters, disrespect for history and culture, and are too casual to advocate. Since the "through" subject matter is limited, creators have been looking for a new set to similar structure plot, now it seems that "soul wear drama" took over the historical responsibility, wonderful degree is even better. "Soul in drama" no exact definition of interpretation in the film and television industry, as the name implies the ontology has its time and space span, but by a "medium" objects "soul" of chaos, back to those years she had, as for, how to explain this phenomenon, he thinks, "make up for the regret, explore spiritual civilization value" as a theme, "Soul" is simply a way of narrative, but because its not like "genre" reverse history "god", as the past to personalize story text, which has become the present why can under the policies of the state administration of radio grows "cracks", one of the reasons for the "soul wear drama" fire, is not only a popular subject matter, It depends more on the fit of the director, the writer and the actors.

In 2019, I want to See You introduced the charm of soulwear to the audience. In fact, South Korea and TVB had similar film and television creation earlier, but because of traffic restrictions and mediocre themes, "Soul Wear drama" has not become a "life-saving straw" in the range of popular recognition. It wasn't until I Wanted to See You that the appeal of the "Soul Piercing + Redemption" premise became known. "I want to See you" won the red male and female leading actors, Xu Guanghan marched into the mainland, half a year won nearly ten endorsements. The popularity of Want to See You is in the right place at the right time: First of all, in 2019, the "pandemic" and "the state of long-distance relationships" made many couples who were separated find emotional resonance. Secondly, it chose weekly broadcast rather than daily broadcast, which lengthened the time line and kept audiences'

expectations and hot topics. Finally, the subtlety of the structure, the sadistic emotional line of two-way redemption, and the suspenseful and fresh style of the work all become the reasons for pleasing.

Three years later, in 2022, a domestic film and TELEVISION drama named *Twinkle, Twinkle Star* was particularly prominent in the hot search topics of the Winter Olympics. It not only did not have a big publicity, but also released the whole episode immediately after the premiere, and the film company did not even buy the home page. It is not hard to see that the film itself does not have high expectations for this, completely relying on the "tap water style" anyway, surprised by the "broken good pot inadvertently insert willow", finally won the "willow Shade" all the way back, the number of views and discussion increased. Speaking of this, it is not difficult to find that whether it is 2019's "See You" or 2022's "Twinkle, Twinkle, Star", they have won the "traffic work" of Domestic time-travel theme films and TV dramas with surprising surprises. In fact, there were similar works of this kind of theme in the course between these two explosive plays, such as *Chen Qian Qian in rumor*, *Trembling PART* and so on. These several works also appeared a short flow of "star benefit", and then were crushed by "hard word-of-mouth" works.

The reasons why *I Want to See You* and *Twinkle, Twinkle Star* can achieve certain popularity are as follows: first, on the narrative level, genre elements are mixed, innovation and emotional core are parallel; Secondly, at the audience level, the mechanism of audience's "vision of expectation" and film empathy should be broken through. Third, the production level, detail setting

This paper discusses the reasons for the success of "Soul wear drama" and looks into the future.

### 1. Content is King: The "Shell" of Diverse Types and the "Core" of Emotional Cues

Whether it wants to see you, or a flash of a shining stars, it is simplistic single theme film and television play, contains both the type of diversification, interspersed with extraordinary emotional clues, both into the "love, suspense, fantasy, and many other elements, complex soft" love "as the main line, interspersed with" friendship, affection, redemption "wait for a variety of emotions. That's what's so sweet about creative content.

"Want to See You" is a beautiful love story set by idol drama, with the dramatic tension of suspense drama, set a lot of suspense, combined with the way of fantasy drama characterization, and borrowing the mode of time travel drama, tells a young man and woman who travel back to 1998 and 2019, they want to see each other, looking for each other's moving love story. When people dream, they will give vent to their repressed deep desires. Thus, the satisfaction of human deep desires can be achieved through the manufacture of "illusions" similar to dreams.<sup>[2]</sup> The story line of "Want to See You" can be sorted out as: Huang Yuxuan misses her boyfriend Wang Quansheng in 2019 and crosses into Chen Yunru in 1998. "Chen Yunru" becomes lively and cheerful from inferiority and cowardness. Li Ziwei falls in love with Chen Yunru who has Huang Yuxuan's soul; In 1999, Chen Yunsuch as strange death, at the scene of Mo Junjie unjustly imprisoned; Huang Yuxuan passes through ceaselessly in 1998, the attempt finds the truth of the event. In 2003, Li Ziwei was injured in a car accident when he came back from studying abroad and was in danger of death. In 2010, Wang Quansheng jumped into the sea. Li Ziwei fell in love with the real Huang Yuxuan as Wang Quansheng until the air crash in 2017, when Wang Quansheng died. Li ziwei's spirit travels back to his own self after a car accident in 2003 and fails to prevent Mo's suicide. He then quietly waits for 2019 and sends the walkman with "Last Dance" to Huang yuxuan, who successfully travels back to 1998 in the hope of preventing the tragedy.

Thus, the scriptwriter completed an extremely complex circular narrative structure of "Mobius ring", which is mutually causal and consistent. Mobius ring structure in film and television art has the characteristics of variability and infinite circulation as well as itself.<sup>[3]</sup> Each time through will make the space and time subtle changes, in the accumulation of countless times through the butterfly effect, the butterfly flaps "wings", affecting the space and time, the introduction of modern space and time Huang Yuxuan and the past space and time Li Ziwei through the scene, to the play has brought a touch of fantasy color. The play actively explores the mixture of multiple types and integrates many elements of various types, so as to increase the amount of information of film and television text, meet the increasing aesthetic taste of the public, expand the audience group invisibly, and bring the audience a new experience of watching the play.

"Twinkle, Twinkle Star" adopts a circular way of "soul piercing", which is similar to the beginning not long ago. Compared with "hard science fiction", it has logic loopholes and is not good at setting the time and space cycle. The most touching part of this play is more "love" under the fantasy shell. The

emotions of *Twinkle, Twinkle Star* are complex and soft. Zhang Wansen's unrequited love for Lin Beixing is both touching and empathetic. Zhang Wansen used his every move to explain what is called "once upon a time there was a person love you for a long time". The encounter at a young age lets him remember Lin Beixing forever, protect this girl silently all the time behind. But fate lane person, Lin Beixing eyes did not have him. Be about to enter and start 30, accomplish nothing however, return the Lin Beixing that is divorced, accidentally discover to pass through a message in deleting 10 years ago old mobile phone to pass through in the past, in again and again "soul wears" in cycle, Lin Beixing discovered Zhang Wansen's good slowly, In the one-way and two-way emotion of "rescue" and "guard", Zhang Wansen's long unrequited love is finally fully displayed in front of the audience, so that the audience is moved by the true feelings paid silently. *Twinkle, Twinkle Star* tells the whole story with meticulous detail, with sincere emotion that makes the audience cry frequently. In addition to its emphasis on emotion, *Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star* is also innovative in genre elements and narrative structure. If you strip away the suspense and fantasy elements of the novel and only tell the love story between the hero and the heroine, after a few episodes, the audience may be bored with sugar. The suspense element of the loop, diluting the sweetness of love, also propels the plot development, and keeps the audience exploring the series to satisfy the curiosity of "solving crimes".

The mixture of diverse genres makes the whole story look like more "brain-burning" plot exploration. Meanwhile, the true feelings under the fantasy shell also make the audience fall into the emotional entanglement of "high sugar". Both are indispensable.

## 2. Emotional Resonance: Audience Psychology and Character "Ceiling Setup"

The theory of "use and satisfaction" regards the audience as individuals with specific "needs" and their media contact activities as a process of "using" media based on specific motivation of needs, so that these needs can be "satisfied". This study provides a new perspective for the audience analysis of communication, and analyzes the behavioral and psychological effects of mass communication on people by studying the motivations and needs of the audience for media contact. The two works have a good grasp of the audience psychology and set up a number of "ceiling design" to meet the needs of the audience.

The mirror stage is the formation process of the subject. It is the process of imagining the self as someone else and the other referring to oneself. The prerequisite factors of the mirror-image stage are the appearance of scarcity, the denial of scarcity and the generation of desire.<sup>[4]</sup> Appearance standards has become an important fulcrum, idol drama" external image is a measure of a man of great importance, one of the male leading role not only have high level in appearance, also be molded for sunshine, considerate, active super sunshine boy, such a person meet the aesthetic needs of the female audience, has realized the women in real life for another companion of fantasy to meet objectives. The drama attaches importance to the spiritual and psychological needs of the audience. Love is the eternal theme of film and television works, and the audience is willing to devote themselves to the beautiful love story of the drama. The bullet screen function of online video playing platform provides a space for the audience to communicate. In the play closer to the finale, many audiences because of the story too abuse of heart, strong desire to see a good ending, production team will respond to the audience of this demand, temporary add eggs, add the shot of the new ending as a special gift to support the show's audience, the audience has played a vital role, has become one of the participants. Audiences watching this play is not an escape from reality, but a way to relax their spirit, a way to release pressure, but also a channel for audiences to meet their personal spiritual needs. At the same time, "See You" has a "romantic upgrade, soul love" psychological front. Chen Yun such as and Huang Yuxuan have the same appearance, and Li Ziwei but like Huang Yuxuan do not like Chen Yun such as, and can immediately judge the present person in the end is not their favorite person, which fully reflects the audience more yearning "soul love". Secondly, in the setting of characters, the scriptwriter did not make the hero in the "single business not online" according to the usual "misunderstanding" method, which finally led to forced separation and fell into the conventional and hypocritical impasse. And "want to see you" but cleverly set a closed loop, let Li Ziwei fifteen years can not go to find Huang Yuxuan this matter become a matter of course. Many times through time and space, the long wait of fifteen years, also let the audience more deeply feel the romantic love between the hero and heroine, fit the audience's expectation of romantic love, meet the audience's desire for faithful love. At this point, it is important to talk about both online and men who have the "tea and whore" male morality ceiling have a very strong preference in front of the female audience. The pleasing public psychology of "ceiling design" and "I still only love you despite the twists and turns of time" has nothing to do with any "pure love". The combination of the three makes the audience have a tacit "sense of substitution" in a certain sense and

satisfies the emotional resonance of the audience.

In a flash of a shining stars, "has a crush on the ceiling, set to become the best character set, generally girls have always been in love play quiet devotion was invisible" like a party ", years of arduous journey in female two heavy blow will choose self awakening, just want to be "independent women", but accidentally get "boy late two-way to", Finally choose to return to love.This is the general "secret admirer set" setting, but in "Twinkle, Twinkle Star", not only abandon gender, at the same time, introverted, calm, shy, silent pay personality all put on a "secret admirer" body, with all the youth "shy and ignorant" emotion.Apart from the typical "secret admirer set", Lin Beixing, the heroine, is an easily relatable character.Nearly 30 years old, do not know what their ideal is, every day dawdle.In a relationship with her ex-fiance, she loses herself and tries to conform, only to be rejected by him.As Lin Beixing goes through time after time, she discovers she can become a better person.Thus began the "open hanging" of life.The whole drama is designed to get rid of the dogblood setting of "jealousy, intolerance or resentment because of love", but "whole-hearted silent guard".In the creation of scriptwriters, it is difficult to set the "secret admirer". Generally speaking, there will be two extremes: first, the secret admirer will lose himself, and the audience will have the aversion of "licking the dog".Secondly, the secret admirer moved and intoxicated himself every day, and the audience would have "greasy" feelings.But in this play, the scriptwriting set zhang Wansen, not only has the character of three views, but also always keeps a "personality independent beautiful young" image. The scriptwriting is very good for my audience's psychological memory of "youth", and expertly reveals the fresh and refined "white shirt boy".More deeply, the length of "ten years" and the emotional thickness of "life protection" reinforce the pure and simple appeal of young men and women for "love", which meets the aesthetic needs and psychological satisfaction of young audiences.

### 3. Detail setting: through the media clever and theme in line with The Times

In a work, details not only reflect the connotation of a work belongs to, but also show the intention of the production team. Details are not only reflected in the setting of a plot element, but also reflected in the discussion of the motif of the work itself.

First of all, the "soul wear" media of "See You" is a setting of fresh literature and art. It takes a walkman and a Last Dance of Wu Bai as the media to pass through, and takes the strong love of "see you" as the inner driving force to stage the story of chasing each other. The opening and closing of eyes at the beginning and end of the film also echoes the lyric "So I close your eyes for the moment" in Last Dance throughout the whole play. The closing of eyes means the beginning of crossing while the opening of eyes means successful crossing, indicating the main line of the whole play.The visual experience brought by the beginning and end of the film is very pure and beautiful, symbolizing love and bringing visual enjoyment to people. Secondly, in addition to the consistent beautiful pictures of youth idol dramas, what is more valuable is that it imagizes and emotionalizes time and space. Standing at the height of history, it recombines time and space and interprets a certain cycle of life. It does not discuss the real reducibility of objective time and space, but explores the reality of life experience.Escape in the mobius ring closure structure and chases, destruction and redemption, constant, iteration, actually change myriad, each role of the play is A complex multidimensional, Huang Yuxuan and Chen Yun such as as is A and B side of the coin, whether need not be Chen Yun jun-jie mo, such as, when she was being bullied, or sexual interpretation of the king of the minority groups, Or living in the past of Huang Yuxuan, they are emotional edge people, they lost themselves in the emotional world, living in distress and insecurity.It discusses three motifs: first, Chen Yun is like self-abased, introverted, solitary and not liked by people around.Because of the arrival of Huang Yuxuan, "Chen Yun such as" become optimistic and cheerful, obtained the love of all people, which leads to ontology Chen Yun such as unable to achieve self-identity, began to imitate Huang Yuxuan.Whether only the bright and confident can be recognized, and the cowardly will never be valued;Second, Mo junjie is deaf in one ear and has to wear a hearing aid all the time, which is discriminated against by his classmates.Whether children with disabilities are inferior;Third, Wang Quansheng, who was gay, was called "disgusting" by his lover and committed suicide by jumping into the sea.When the world will become different, like who will not be strange.In short, compared to other idol drama, "see you" not only represents the Japanese Huang Yuxuan with male Lord Li Ziwei different space-time sincere feelings, also discussed social issues through the formal appearance of love, a different approach, make the public pay more attention to the reality of minority groups, reflected the strong social sense of responsibility, with sincere attitude, it explore the love thing, Let us hear the voice of "Chen Yunru men", with "love through time and space" as the background to explore the life proposition of losing oneself and saving oneself in infinite time and space, explore the pursuit of

"other" and "self" motif.

With all this talk, why is *Twinkle Twinkle Star* not mentioned? Because these are its shortcomings. "*Twinkle, Twinkle Star*" although hot circle, but there are still some negative criticism of the play. Due to its similar themes, many viewers compared *Twinkle Twinkle Star* with Taiwan's highly distracting DRAMA *See You*, criticizing *Twinkle Twinkle Star* as a low-profile version of *See You*, and some thought that the play was overrated, with a bit of water in the plot and unclear positioning. In fact, "*Twinkle, Twinkle Star*" is still far from "*See You*", and there are still some loopholes in the play's logic and narrative.

In "*Twinkle, Twinkle, Star*" the details are not in place, for example: a small boy mix wheat broke the glass of Zhang Wansen's class, Zhang Wansen's class students inexplicably think it is Lin Beixing's class classmate Yang Chaoyang, just because Yang Chaoyang's academic performance is not good. The Chinese mode of thinking has become a criticism here, the kids with bad grades are always disruptive, these details are inevitably controversial. "*See you*", by contrast, the plot of the logic is more rigorous, performed on Li Ziwei, Jun-jie mo and Japanese high school life, are very common sense, close to the truth, men and women the main two-way cross the events related to a point in time, will be very appropriate, which arouses the audience combing time line, the enthusiasm of the search for the truth. In general, *Twinkle, Twinkle Star*'s strengths and weaknesses are obvious, and the logic of the story needs to be refined.

#### **4. For this kind of theme film and TV drama outlook: break the misunderstanding, adhere to the heart; Content is king, respect the audience**

Objectively speaking, the popularity of *Twinkle, Twinkle Star* shows that this kind of fantasy romance drama has a certain market potential. But how will a fantasy romance like *Twinkle, Twinkle Star* survive in the market?

Chinese television market has always been to realism creation as a mainstream subjects, the aesthetic orientation of the audience in recent years gradually diversified, the resulting full screen Xianxia drama took another error is, the opposition between fantasy and reality, completely against the realistic theme creation, this leads to is often the setting of the characters and the plot of the story of the stereotypical. If it were not for the male master constantly upgrade play strange, or is the male and female master thousand years of abuse love, see much really make the audience aesthetic fatigue. To maintain the artistic value of time travel dramas, it is necessary to step out of the pursuit of interests and superficial sensory entertainment, so as to restore the accumulated power of society, history and culture.<sup>[5]</sup>

It is true that fantasy does not have to be empty. *See You* and *Twinkle, Twinkle Star* set a good example, combining youth love with fantasy and other themes, expanding the vitality of a single type of drama and extending the theme range of fantasy drama, which has been recognized by most audiences. Chen Bao-guo once said, "Good stories can transcend language barriers, cultural disputes and psychological barriers, and even build national image, spread values and enhance cultural identity."<sup>[6]</sup>

On the other hand, Korean dramas do a better job in this respect, "*You from the Star*" "*Lonely and brilliant God: Ghosts* and other dramas subvert audiences' stereotypes with imaginative plots, which not only surprise audiences, but also show them an interesting story with smooth logic and subtle details. At the same time, they depict different human nature in fantasy, which always arouses deep resonance among audiences. If you just put on the coat of niche theme, do not pay attention to the internal logic of the story, do not believe in the intelligence of the audience, and still use the old routine, will eventually be betrayed by the audience and the market.

Therefore, if fantasy romance wants to establish itself in the future market, it should always keep in mind the two iron rules of telling a good story and respecting the audience. Of course, Chinese fantasy romances are still in the initial stage of development, so as viewers, we should also give them a certain amount of patience and confidence. It remains to be seen what the future holds for fantasy romances in this era of opportunity and risk.

#### **5. Conclusion**

As a subject not recognized by mainstream culture, "time travel drama" needs to rely on other types

of TV dramas as its carrier. "Crossing" is more like a seasoning, properly used, can better stimulate the audience's "taste buds". With the continuous reform of the film and television market, producers abandon the irrationality of "traversal" and instead take "soul traversal" as a new way of story telling, so as to achieve the unsustainable market audience of "traversal". As a time travel drama, *I Want to See You* is bold innovation and logical, and there is no lack of story connotation. It is very delicate in every detail. It is an excellent work worthy of careful watching and thinking. The flashing a shiny stars as a fantasy love drama, become the open TV market in a dark horse, the black horse has not gone traffic routes, but by exquisite and sincere emotion shape, multiple kinds of fusion theme, more brilliant conception and create high quality images and music won most of the audience's approval. However, there are logic loopholes and unreasonable plots in this play, which is still far from the excellent play "See You" with similar theme. In the domestic market, there are both opportunities and risks. If these dramas can grasp the opportunity, tell the story well and master the details, they will be closer to success. To carry on the reasonable comparison to its, review the possibility of the domestic market, abandon already sealed "through" drama, research and development rationality of "soul wear" new construction will become a new wave full of future!

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