

Bright Knight Color in Scott's Historical Novels: a Case Study of *Evangel*

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ABSTRACT. *Ivanh tells the heroic story of Richard the Lion Heart, who returned home after the Crusade failed, and who almost single-handedly flattened the domestic rebellion and regained the throne with only a few old generals around him. It reflects and confirms the distinctive chivalry in Scott's historical novels.*

KEYWORDS: *Scott; Evangel; Knight colour*

1. Introduction

Walter Scott (1771 - 1832), a famous English poet and father of historical fiction, is a famous Romantic writer. He lived in the period of the rise of European Romantic Literature Movement. Scott's works are mainly divided into two periods: poetry in the early period and historical fiction in the later period. His representative works include *Wilfley*, *Puritans*, *Rob Roy* and *Evan Hector*. Whether it is a long narrative poem or a huge historical novel, it vividly demonstrates the writer's romantic writing temperament and personality in terms of the collection of themes, the arrangement of plots, the shaping of characters and even the style of describing scenery and Lyric language. Especially in his novels, Scott often picks up the legendary historical stories which spread among the people in the middle ages, and continues the creation style of chivalry literature which was once popular in Western Europe in the characterization and plot arrangement. Knight literature is the product of the feudal knight system in Western Europe. It mainly describes Knight love and adventure stories. The most distinctive chivalry in Scott's works is "Evan Hee"[1].

2. Scott's Historical Novel "Evangel"

In the background of national and class contradictions in the reign of Richard the Lion-Heart King in the late 12th century, *Evangel* expresses a brilliant and colorful heroic story full of chivalry. *Avanch*, a descendant of the Anglo-Saxon aristocracy, was expelled by his father because he fell in love with *Rovina*, the heiress of the Saxon Royal family. He followed King Richard III in the crusade of the late twelfth century. The plot of the novel began when he returned from abroad anonymously to visit *Rovina*. At that time, there were national contradictions between Saxon

aristocracy and Norman aristocracy, class contradictions between oppressed people and aristocracy represented by Robin Hood and Greenwood partners, and internal contradictions among the ruling class represented by the struggle for feudal rights and interests between Richard the Lion Heart and Prince John's brothers. The protagonist, Evan H, connects the main roles in these conflicts and makes them intertwined with the characters' adventure and love twists and turns in the novel. At the Biwu Conference, King Richard and the Saxons united against John. The victorious but injured Avanch and others were hijacked by John's Norman knights to Tawgis East Fort. King Richard and Robin Hood rescued them, and Ivanh and Robina happily combined[2].

3. The Bright Knight Color of Scott's Historical Novel "Evan Hee"

Evangel is the author's ideal chivalrous character, but he plays a series role in the plot. Rebecca, a Jewish woman who secretly loves Evangel, is a character with distinct personality. She is the only daughter of Isaac, a wealthy Jewish businessman. She is smart, beautiful, kind and pure. The Jewish nation is in a low position. She is not hateful, but is in danger of helping others. Faced with the violence of the Templar Knight Brion, she fought with death and showed touching moral strength[3].

The novel focuses on three major events: the Ashbebiwu Congress, the battle for Toquelstone Castle and the interrogation of Rebecca in the Temple Hall. These three romantic scenes are not isolated from each other, but gradually formed through the development of the plot, thus making the novel a whole. Competition is Scott's favorite theme, and chivalry is also his medieval fashion. However, here, the contest is not only a contest between the forces of justice and evil, but also a prelude and introduction to the characters of the book. Almost all the important characters in the book appear here and are basically depicted. Victory in the field of martial arts is also in line with the trend of historical development, the representatives of several forces that determine the process of historical development: Evangel, Richard and Locksley, and so on[4]. The battle for Toquelstone Castle is another battle between the forces of justice and evil. In the end, it ends with the fall of the castle and the failure of the evil forces. Obviously, in the author's mind, this evil force represented by Norman Knights will inevitably fail, not only because it is unpopular, contrary to the will of the people, but also because of the serious crisis lurking in it, which is the internal contradiction represented by Ulrich. Ulrich had a deep blood feud with Norman aristocrats and became their plaything. She was in harmony with them and fouled them. Finally, she torched the castle in the rage of revenge. This is Scott's effort to describe a character full of romance[5]. Rebecca's interrogation is the aftermath of the book, but it is an indispensable part. It is through Rebecca's interrogation that the author reveals to us the cruel, hypocritical and cunning face of the Knights Templar, the powerful pillar of Norman's conquest. Its anti-people nature determines its inevitable demise. This is a black-and-white, sinister so-called interrogation, where the victim becomes the accused and the prisoner, sentenced to fire, but the victim appears in the face of justice in accordance with heaven's will,

and becomes the judge of interrogation, standing high in the court. The Templar Knights are the most famous knightly organization in the Crusades, claiming to be the messenger of God, but Brian Bouagibel, its most heroic knight, is a recalcitrant individual ambitious man who can ignore everything in order to satisfy his selfish desires. The fall of the Knights was necessary to bridge the gap between the Normans and the Saxons and to establish a unified nation-state, so it also truly declared the end of the story in the novel[6].

Like many of Scott's other novels, *Evangel* only serves as a link between plots. The author focuses on describing some other characters, the most important of which is Richard I, the Lion Heart King. Richard was the second-generation monarch of the broom dynasty, and the broom Dynasty was actually the continuation of the Norman dynasty. In 1154, the Norman Dynasty died and was succeeded by Henry, Henry II, the grandson of Henry I. Henry II established the Anjou dynasty, also known as the Broom dynasty. Hence, this is also the unification of the Norman people. Richard I, the son of Henry II, succeeded to the throne in 1189, but organized a Third Crusade to Palestine the following year. He truce with Saladin, Sudan, in 1192. He was arrested by the Duke of Austria on his dangerous way home. Two years later, according to the rules of chivalry, he paid a large amount of ransom before being released. The story of this book takes place in the short period of the return of Lion Heart Kingdom. Soon afterwards, he left England for Normandy, fought for five years with Philip II, king of France, and finally died near Limoge, France, in 1199. In this way, although Richard was in office for ten years, his days as king in England were numbered and had no influence on British history. However, he is brave, unconstrained, powerful and powerful. He not only likes war life, but also likes singing and establishing his so-called merits and honors. He is also said to have written many Lyric songs, especially when he treats Normans and Saxons equally. Therefore, he is deeply liked by Saxons and has become a hero in folklore. He has spread a lot in Britain. He is the hero of all the ballads. The Lion Heart King in Scott's works is just such a character. His image is almost entirely based on legends and ballads, which is not consistent with Richard in history. It is such a legendary character that Scott needs. He uses several chapters around the novel to highlight this aspect of him. In the martial arts meeting, he was a swordsman who had never been seen, and then he appeared in the priest's Hermitage drinking and singing, talking and laughing; in the battle for Toquelstone Castle, he became a military commander and a warrior of the pioneers, and then he ran around alone, drinking and having fun with Robin Hood's gang, and then came to the temple hall to preside over the battle. Righteousness. In this way, Richard the Lion Heart became one of the more successful images depicted in all Scott's novels[7].

Scott is a conservative writer. However, he knows that people's aspirations are the basic factors that determine the historical trend. Therefore, in his historical novels, the masses always occupy a position that can not be ignored. In *Ivanhoe*, the first representative of this power is, of course, Robin Hood, the hero of folklore, and a group of green heroes under him. The origin and life of Robin Hood can not be ascertained, but it can be ascertained that this is a people's rebel under Norman rule. In Scotland and England, there are many stories of Robin Hood robbing the rich and

helping the poor, and Scott created this character on the basis of these legends. It is said that he was a self-employed peasant, that is, a self-supporting individual agricultural laborer. Most of his subordinates were free peasants and craftsmen. They all went bankrupt after the Normans'extravagant levy and land annexation, and thus became bandits. According to legend, Robin Hood was an excellent archer. His bows and arrows are still kept in a showroom in Yorkshire. In the novel, he was also the first to emerge as the winner of the bow and arrow competition in Ashbey's arena. He is brave and resourceful, not afraid of violence, as a strong cut-off, but also a clear attitude. In the battle for Torquelstone Castle, he was the organizer and leader of the people's power. In the novel, the author devotes two chapters to describing the strict discipline within these powerful men, the fair distribution of the spoils of war and so on. It can also be seen that Scott is basically positive about these heroes. In the novel, although the Zhuangzhu Cedric appears as a strong fighter against Norman oppression, the author still points out to us that these people's wishes are impossible to achieve, Cedric can't attack a castle, and his hope of recovery is only based on the combination of Aterstein and Rovina. But Aterstein is actually a lazy man who only cares about his appetite. He embodies a fatal weakness of the Saxon kingdom. Therefore, these two people and their statements reflect the Saxon's spirit of resistance, rather than the author through them to show the reader that the Saxons have been unable to overthrow the Norman rule, Britain can only take the road of reconciliation; the only right direction to ensure the prosperity and prosperity of the country, the people live and work in peace and contentment, and Richard and Avanch, even Locksley, and so on. It represents such a historical trend[8].

4. Conclusion

Scott is a Romantic writer with outstanding storytelling ability. He interweaves different clues in an orderly way. For example, "Evan Hee" is a collection of social relations based on the love experience of a couple of heroes and heroines, arranging events of all sizes, from the king to the swineherd, in an orderly manner. This is precisely the way knight literature is created. It can be said that Scott, in his novel, depicts a changing era in the Middle Ages with vivid and smooth ink. In the real historical atmosphere, he has created a large number of chivalrous Knight images for us. Although many of these characters are fictional, they are vivid and truly reflect the process of history. It is these strong heroism and knight colors in his novels that have become the representative symbols of his romantic writing style, and have also produced outstanding artistic value in his works.

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