

Analysis of the Inevitable Fate of Tess in Tess of the D'Urbervilles

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Abstract. Thomas Hardy is an outstanding critical realism writer in Britain in the late 19th century and the early 20th century, occupying an extremely important position in the history of British literature. His novels are often full of rich tragic color, containing an extremely rich progressive ideas of The Times.

Keywords: Tragedy, Fate, Factor, Tess's suffering.

1. Introduction

As one of Hardy's most famous novels, "Tess of the D'Urbervilles" received wide attention from scholars at home and abroad when it was published. It has created a tragic image of a kind and brave girl named Tess, ranging from self-contempt, accepting compromise to a brave pursuit of love and rising resistance. The following will discuss the inevitability of the fate of Tess tragedy from the aspects of social factors, personal factors, fate factors, rural factors and cultural factors.

2. Social factors

Social factors are the primary cause of Tess's tragedy, and Hardy always emphasizes the great impact of the social environment on people. The story is set in the late 19th century, when the rural areas were invaded by the emerging industrial civilization, and the rural mode of production was greatly impacted. The peasants have lost the land they rely on and live in poverty. Tess's family situation was a true portrayal of the peasant life at the time. She was forced to work on the farm to survive the family, and was then cheated by Alec. Alec was a representative of bourgeois power, pursuing only temporary pleasure and having no mercy for Tess. Reflecting the moral view of the British society at that time, there was no sympathy and compassion for the ordinary people living at the bottom of the society, and could only be abandoned by the society.

On her wedding night, Tess confesses to Claire his disgraceful past in hopes of forgiveness and forgiveness from her husband, but Claire is unable to accept the "impure" wife and leaves alone the next day. In Britain, where men with strong power, it was shameful to have sex before marriage, and neither family nor society accepted such women. After being abandoned by Alec, Tess was regarded as an impure woman, bearing the discrimination of the world, and silently enduring the bitter fruits of fate. The novel describes the bourgeois greed and hypocrisy of the upper class of British society, while the lives of the peasants and workers at the bottom class of the society are overwhelmed. Tess's personal life was just as miserable.

3. Personal factors

Personal factors are another important reason for Tess's tragedy. Tess is a hard-working and kind-hearted girl who yearns for freedom and has a sense of resistance at the same time. While challenging the traditional morality, Tess could not completely get rid of the shackles of some backward ethical and moral concepts. In her youth, Tess was very lively and full of longing for a free life. She dreamed of living in a paradise one day. After she met Alec, she hated the cynical rich child and tried to alienate him. However, living in an era of social change and turbulence, Tess and her family suffered misfortunes that forced her to compromise. From the perspective of family, Tess began to change her attitude towards Alec, gave up her own position and principles, and came to work on the farm of the

d'Urbervilles, To thank this "Kind people". Tess's contact with Alec indicates the beginning of the tragedy of the story, and also shows the compromise side of Tess's character. In her opinion, her misfortune was caused by the social system at that time. However, when criticized by the villagers, she changed her attitude She began to change. She thought she was guilty and impure. Tess's attitude towards love has always been hesitant, and she can't have a clear positioning for her marriage.

People's attitude towards life and their way of life are inevitably affected by their character. From this point of view, Tess's tragic life is closely related to her own character. For the sake of her family, she went to Alec's house against her will and fell into Alec's trap. On the wedding night, Tess confessed her past to her husband. She sacrificed her dignity for honesty, but was abandoned. After her father's death, Tess sacrificed herself again and became Alec's mistress for the life of her family. When Angel changed her mind to find Tess, she ignored Angel's indifference and ruthlessness for many years, and killed Alec in order to fly away with Angel, paying the price of her life. Throughout the whole story, we can see that Tess has a strong fatalism. She firmly believes that her family background and social status, her misfortune and unfair fate are doomed and can't get rid of. All she can do is to succumb to the arrangement of fate. On the other hand, Tess has a rebellious spirit and dares to challenge the old social customs and etiquette. She dares to resist society and traditional morality, but the resistance is not complete and resolute. The weakness of Tess's own character is the most fundamental internal decisive factor of her tragic fate. Character determines fate. Tess's weakness largely agrees with the judgment of the patriarchal society on women and believes that she is talented.

4. Fate factor

Thomas Hardy is not only a critical realist writer, but also a pessimistic writer. He integrates pessimism into his works. In Hardy's view, the suffering of the broad masses of people comes from the arrangement of fate, and individuals cannot control their own destiny. Hardy witnessed the whole process of Victorian Britain from strength to decline. In the turbulent British society, there were all kinds of contradictions and the people lived in poverty. Tess in Hardy's works lives in such a turbulent era. In the struggle with complex reality and evil forces, Tess's power is too weak to compete with powerful social forces. After a series of hardships and persecutions, Tess, who was originally simple and kind, became numb, depressed and full of hatred, which finally led her to kill Alec. Various conflicts and contradictions in the real society contributed to the formation of Hardy's pessimistic world outlook and directly affected his creative thought. In the novel, he uses a series of coincidences and hints to illustrate that Tess's tragic fate has long been arranged. When a poor and weak woman tries to change her fate, the tragic ending has a certain inevitability. In the face of powerful social forces, no matter how hard she tries and resists, she can't get rid of the domination of God's will.

Hardy's "fatalism" thought created Tess's tragic fate. Hardy's novels are full of fatalism, which is prominently reflected in *Tess of the D'Urbervilles*. In *Tess of the D'Urbervilles*, Hardy carefully designed a series of suggestive and coincidental events to show that the tragedy of Tess's fate was doomed by heaven. The first coincidence in the novel is that when Tess sent honey to the old horse, the only economic pillar of her family, the old horse was killed by a mail car. The death of the old horse directly led to the collapse of Tess's family economy. For this reason, Tess had to go to her family's Yalei family to help make money. On the surface, the accidental death of the old horse seems to be an ordinary coincidence in life, but it happened to Tess, who is already in financial difficulties, which indicates a fatal turning point in the protagonist's fate, which means that Tess must shoulder the heavy burden and do something she has never done before. Hardy believes that Tess's loss is actually the retribution of Tess's ancestors, which obviously has the consistent view of fatalism in Hardy's thought.

5. Rural cultural Factor

The backward and closed environment has created ignorant people. In Hardy's novels, farmers are not only superstitious, but also have some foolish social values, decadent ethics and backward marriage ideas, which have a great impact on Tess's tragedy. Tess's tragedy began at the upstart d'Urberville family, and the originator of the marriage recognition was her good face and vain parents. Her mother also checked the fortune teller, hoping that Tess could win the favor of her rich relatives, but she didn't know that it pushed Tess to the brink of danger. At the same time, we can also see the weight of money and family status in the social values at that time. After Tess lost her body and went home, people not only did not sympathize with Tess, but also ridiculed Tess that "this kind of thing is always met by the most beautiful people." And this kind of stale ideological and moral concept seems to have spread to Tess, making her see herself as an embodiment of evil and a nondescript person.

At the milking farm, Tess met a young man who went there to study farm management. They had a very happy time there. The people here are simple and friendly. The farmers get along well with the workers, eat and have fun together. In such an environment, Tess also rekindled hope and found the beauty of life, and the story seemed to end. Tess's guilt and persecution have always bound her ethics, so that she has been carrying a heavy cross and always remembering that she is an "unclean woman". It can be seen that this kind of ethical and moral concept exists not only among the foolish farmers, but also among the men and women who have the courage to pursue happiness, which has become a stumbling block to their love.

As a victim of the alternation of the old and new times, Tess's short and unfortunate life is a true portrayal of the miserable life of the majority of farmers under the disintegration of the bourgeois rural economy, and its tragic outcome has obvious inevitability. Tess's suffering, pain, exploitation and destruction are the epitome of the tragic fate of employed farmers under the British capitalist system at the end of the 19th century. Tess's tragedy is a symbol of the tragic fate of the peasant class under the disintegration of the British rural economy at the end of the 19th century. Tess's tragedy is doomed and inevitable. It is the inevitable product of the development of capitalist society.

6. Conclusion

As a new woman in Hardy's novels, although Tess constantly challenged the traditional values and morality, she never got rid of the tragedy of fate and finally became a martyr of the capitalist system. Tess's tragedy is not only due to social factors, but also to her personality, Hardy's pessimistic fatalism and rural cultural factors. Through the analysis of Tess's tragic fate, readers can clearly see the corruption and reaction of the bourgeoisie, the destruction of people by evil religious forces and the hypocrisy of bourgeois ethics. At the same time, they can see Hardy's sympathy for the poor people represented by Tess. Although Tess failed in the struggle with society and fate, her steadfast and tenacious spirit is worthy of praise.

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