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Betrayal of Faith in the Name of God—Film Review of the Korean Drama *Snowdrop Flower*

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Abstract

The Korean drama *Snowdrop Flower* is set in Seoul in 1987, during a general election in South Korea. The Love Name Party and the opposition party were involved in both public and covert conflicts. The male protagonist of this drama is an undercover agent dispatched from North Korea to South Korea. *Snowdrop Flower* depicts the love story of an injured male protagonist who unexpectedly enters Haoxiu University. Amid the closely monitored and regulated women's dormitory, the male protagonist finds refuge with Yin Yinglu, a female college student who bravely shelters and treats him. Because of this historical background, *Snowdrop Flower* has faced numerous doubts and has even been criticized by over 200,000 netizens in South Korea, which is quite surprising. The release of *Snowdrop Flower* has brought a fresh visual experience, sparking various controversies.

Keywords

Snowdrop Flower, Korean drama *Snowdrop Flower* information, *Snowdrop Flower* historical background

1. Introduction to *Snowdrop Flower*

Snowdrop Flower is a romantic drama directed by Cho Hyun-cho, written by Yu Hyun-mi, starring Ding Hae-in, Kim Ji-so, Yoo In-na, Jang Seung-jo, etc., which premiered on South Korea's JTBC TV on December 18, 2021. Set in Seoul in 1987, the play tells the intricate love story between North Korean spy Lim So-ho and female student Yin Young-ro, who assisted him. The play is carefully set with rich composition, in addition, the whole play is also full of religious meaning it, the director through a number of contradictory settings to make the story more complete, and he cooperates with each other, is the character's setting of the whole drama is more full, behind each character, as if a group of people seated in the figure, cleverly use the group portrait technique, making this drama more tense. In this drama, subtly mixed with diverse cultures, the use of props and the highlights of details complement each other better, making the originally dry plot appear rounded and full, and finally with natural light, subtly expressing the director's thoughts, for people, families, and even social aspects, highlighting the deep harm of war to the people, is a rare conscience production.

2. Interpretation of Audiovisual Language in Movies

First of all, the composition runs through the entire play. The director employs a large number of symmetrical compositions, whether it is Director Pi or Lin Xiuhao passing through the dormitory. The use of symmetrical composition in the context of the two characters' different social identities leads to different meanings.

Here, as Xiuhao walks, the symmetrical composition implies that young women and men face challenges in their love lives under the strict social hierarchy. This is followed by the endless resistance of the two individuals to the social system, which the director praises as a representation of love between men and women. On the contrary, when

Director Pi walks by, the sense of depression will be more prominent. This highlights Director Pi's status as a high-ranking leader in the academy, creating a strong visual impact for the audience. It also complements Director Pi's maturity and stability, resulting in enhanced visual beauty. Secondly, when female college students are dating, they often appear together in the same camera frame, subtly indicating their shared goals. This creates a sense of unity and solidarity, which forms a strong basis for the bond between girlfriends. This aspect can be considered a crucial element in the composition of each frame (Snowdrop flower, 2021).

Secondly, the director set up a number of contradictions in the film, accelerating the development of the story through the outbreak of contradictions, where the point spreads to the line, and then from the line to the surface, using extremely ordinary characters in society to narrate, so that the audience arouses strong resonance. At the beginning of the story, there is a contradiction between a man and a woman's romance, where a man meets a girl but can't see it, and is trampled under the strict law. Above the students is the political arena, and a group of ladies are blindly comparing the power of their husbands, which greatly shows the ugliness of the social phenomenon of the time. The camera turned, and the husbands participated in the meeting, it was the struggle between the parties and the parties that decided who was in power, in order to be in power, they had to look for help from North Korea, and only then did the appearance of Xiuhao later, derived the contradiction between countries, to be precise, this is the contradiction between social consciousness so that the gradual logical order conforms to the development of the timeline, further increases the integrity of the story, and reflects the director's large pattern (Brown broad, 2022).

Then, the film is rich in diverse cultures and religions. First, in South Korea, where Christianity was indispensable at the time, the Bible became the spiritual pillar for the people to pray for happiness during the war, and people longed for heroes to redeem them for a short period of happiness. Second, when Lin Changzhu appeared in Beijing, the Beijing Hotel was a distinctive symbol of Chinese culture, representing that the country can actually live in peace, and it is full of yearning and sustenance for a better life in the future. Third, it is the scene of playing mahjong in Yinglu 207 dormitory, looking back at history, highlighting the broad and far-reaching influence of Chinese cultural characteristics, representing the era of globalization, there are indispensable exchanges between countries, it is necessary for cultural exchanges, it can be said that the director is very careful (A Yang, 2023).

However, the use of props in the film runs through almost all the plots of the entire film and is an indispensable and important part of the story's promotion. The first is the gun that Xiuhao is holding. The firing of the gun represents Xiuhao's mood at the moment, which is in line with Xiuhao's gentle and steady personality and can better set off the seriousness of the matter, which plays a pivotal role in understanding the entire drama. Second, it was Yinglu's bag, which greatly accelerated the speed of Xiuhao's discovery, which Yinglu and Uncle never expected, which paved the way for the quarrel of the subsequent sisters and also made sufficient preparations for Xiuhao's subsequent entry. Third, there is a telephone everywhere, and in the era without mobile phones, fixed telephones have become an important tool for communication. As a tool for transmitting messages, the identity of the girl in the phone booth is extremely important, further highlighting the political reality of the Communist Party's extreme disadvantage in South Korea, promoting the development of the plot, causing more contradictions to spread, asking for phones, making calls, grabbing phones... One ring clasps the other, but also clasps the audience's heart, making it more tense and a situation where every second counts. The fourth is the paper airplane of Inlu. From a personal point of view, this is Yinglu's longing and reluctance for Xiuhao, with the love of youth, is a tool for live transmission, and it lays the foundation for Xiuhao's arrest; From a social point of view, it is a strong stroke of young men and women who dare to break through themselves and fight for freedom, and there is deep thinking that pays tribute to the liberation of medieval humanism in the rebellion against law and asceticism; From a national point of view, this is a breakthrough and innovative reflection on ancient, conservative rules, thought-provoking, complementing Xiuhao's escape, lengthening the timeline, and leaving the audience with more space to think. Fifth, there is a stone statue of the leader in the girls' dormitory. Here, it is a symbol of authority, and everyone has to obey their words and cannot accommodate the slightest resistance, which is so depressing and uncomfortable for those who yearn for freedom. Secondly, the toppling of the leader stone statue also hints at the end of the party's eventual downfall, and the director's many close-ups can already make the audience think about the end, which has a strong suggestive effect on the subsequent plot. It can be seen that props are an important finishing touch in the play (A Heron, 2023).

Next, under the plump character setting, there is a reflection of social phenomena, which is extremely philosophical. First of all, the male protagonist of this drama, Xiuhao, is a typical boy image, loyal to the country and full of wisdom, in the piano of the entire drama, is a righteous villain image, and makes a rich foreshadowing for the tragic ending of the story. The heroine Yinglu is a product of the regime, they have not done anything wrong, but they have been

struggling, swaying to survive, even so, they will be disgusted, it is an ordinary tragedy of the times, with the texture of Balzac. Director Pi, a representative of the middle-aged group, already has a certain family business and has to consider her own situation in crisis, so she first considers her own situation and safety, thinking about other people, so that self-loss is minimized, which makes this drama more reasonable, which is the norm of contemporary middle-aged groups, which has aroused deep resonance. Moreover, there is the existence of Wu Guangtai, who is Xiuhao's traitor. In order to survive, one must consider the family back home. The protagonist covets wealth and constantly desires to be surrounded by the image of a wealthy woman. This character is a typical outsider who, to some extent, drives the plot forward by perceiving ugliness as beauty. This further exposes the true nature of human desires, pushing them to the extreme, and ultimately destabilizing the protagonist's position. Such characters are common in real life, prompting viewers to contemplate the level of social justice that can be tolerated. They become a focal point of controversy for the protagonist, adding a crucial element carefully crafted by the director. Finally, there is the soldier Young-woo. It is the portrayal of a man with noble aspirations who can both sing and cry but has transformed into a war machine, dedicating his life to the harsh realities of war. It can truly be described as the essence of this show.

Finally, it is the lighting of the entire drama. Because it has always been about the love of men and women as the main narrative, most of them use warm natural light as contour light use, one is to reflect the physical beauty of the male and female protagonists. To reflect the character's family at that time, in the period of the scenery, due to the heating of the situation, the luster behind Xiuhao and Yinglu gets darker and darker, and finally, they are cornered, thus triggering a bloody case, along the way, the director has been telling us the answer of the times, we should learn the director's superb technology and thinking. This is a key part of the show (Daily Film Review, 2022).

The warm color scheme behind Xiuhao and Yinglu has been reduced by about half, indicating that the tone of things starting here is not optimistic. At the end of the story, when Xiu Hao and Kang Wu sacrificed, they all turned into a suppressed gray color that was presented to the audience, leaving them ample time to think and one of the highlights left by the director for this play.

In *Snowdrop Flower*, the seven emotions and six desires of the world are reflected. Human nature is reflected, and then, the lifelong events of the country are reflected, and the stories between countries reflect the tragic social reality, which can attract widespread social attention. Female college students dating male college students is love, highlighting a more innocent and beautiful side, under the social identity of students, Xiuhao and Yinglu are burdened with the fate of a party, they are like a pawns, at the mercy of others, can not decide their own life freedom, all their lives are locked up in the cage of fate, just like the ordinary tragedy of "Prometheus in Bondage", outlining the social reality of "power is destiny", causing anger and disgust among some people in society, Alludes to the social facts of the antagonism of the bourgeoisie and the proletariat. Under multiple social pressures, the couple was finally forced to be helpless, and both turned against each other, but because they were finally cornered and chose to redeem each other, in this closed space, the proletariat and the bourgeoisie achieved a short peaceful coexistence, illustrating certain anti-war ideas and expressing the director's love for peace. If you can live in peace, there is no need to fight, this string of dominoes-like effects, from point to line, from line to surface structure, layer by layer, in line with the time and logical order, thus further reflecting the director's large pattern, which is commendable (Like a bustle, 2022).

3. Conclusion

In the entire play, the storyline is a very important part. The play starts with a date and ends with a person's date, emphasizing the completeness of the story. The director connected the fates of various characters in the play through a narrative technique, triggering more conflicts and promoting the development of the story plot. From the student's exit from school to society, and then through society, police and agents are introduced. The death of the former agent leads to the main task, pulls into the plot, unfolds the climax, and finally writes the final ending of the story through the contradiction of not letting the student go. The side shows that the director's storyline and logic are very captivating, making it a rare and good film.

Do not think that the years are quiet, but someone carries the weight for you. We live in a relatively peaceful era, but we also deeply feel that this peace is not easily attained. After the release of *Snowdrop Flower*, it garnered significant ratings and had far-reaching repercussions. This success is attributed to the director's strong professional ethics and the use of various technologies to deliver a powerful visual impact, showcasing the diverse spectrum of human nature. Therefore, we should take a cue from the director, live in the moment, and strive to preserve our remaining innocence.

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