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亨利費爾丁在十八世紀英國小說的超群創作：

《湯姆瓊斯》

Henry Fielding's Preeminent Originality in the Eighteenth-Century
Novel: The History of Tom Jones, a Founding

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Abstract

My thesis aims to examine Henry Fielding's originality and moralism in Tom Jones. As the precursor of the eighteenth-century English novel, Henry Fielding has a creativity that is undoubted and particularly conspicuous in Tom Jones. The earlier novelists write novels in the spotty form; however, Fielding's bouncy delineation of characters and milieu makes Tom Jones the first true novel to present the real human situation. Besides, Tom Jones is an essay to define and explain the novel as a legitimate literary genre. Fielding creates a believable background of a miscellaneous and exuberant society, detailed descriptions of his characters' actions and reactions, and those plausible elements truly mirror the era.

Tom Jones makes novel genre the most accomplished position in the eighteenth-century literature; besides a novel, it is also a comedy, an epic, and a romance. As a comedy, it, of course, has a happy ending which is the union of Tom Jones and Sophia Western. According to the traditional, the couple from different backgrounds, Tom who is bastard and Sophia who is noble, cannot get married. However, Fielding is strongly optimistic and confident about humanity, and his society generously offers those who actively fight for life and achieve self-realization and happiness. As an epic, Fielding provides the reader the genuine novelistic portrait of English life and experiences of the circumstances. Tom Jones can be seen as the first novel to depict

the panorama of an age. When it comes to the genre of romance, Fielding writes his hero as a playboy who has complicated relationships with ladies; on the other hand, he is definitely a infatuated lover of Sophia Western.

This thesis consists of three chapters. Chapter one focuses on Henry Fielding's preeminent writing skills. Chapter two deals with the three genres of Tom Jones: comedy, epic, and romance. The last chapter discusses how Henry Fielding, the Realistic novelist, instills moralism in Tom Jones.

Keywords: eighteenth-century English novel, comic epic, romance, moralism, human nature



中文摘要

我的論文主要是闡述亨利費爾汀在《湯姆瓊斯》一書中的獨創性和道德主義。身為十八世紀英國小說家的先驅，亨利費爾汀在《湯姆瓊斯》中展現卓越的創作能力是無庸置疑的。早期小說家的作品並沒有一致性，而費爾汀筆下的角色及社會環境都張力十足，因此使得《湯姆瓊斯》成為第一部描繪人類真實情況的寫實小說。除此之外，本書也將小說定義成正式文類且加以說明。費爾汀創造了一個多元豐富又實際的社會背景，她詳細的描速美一個角色的動作及反應，而這些似真實的原素真實的反應當時的時代。

《湯姆瓊斯》一書使小說這一文類在十八世紀成為最有成就的文學，它除了屬於小說類外，還是一部喜劇，史詩，和羅曼史。就喜劇而言，湯姆和蘇菲亞的結合就是一個歡喜的結局。湯姆生為私生子，而蘇菲亞出生於貴族，在傳統上，這一對來自不同背景的情人是不能結婚的。然而費爾汀對人性充滿樂觀與信心，使得與社會搏鬥的人們可以實現自我與得到幸福。以史詩的角度來看，費爾汀真實呈現當時英國的生活環境和經驗。《湯姆瓊斯》可說是第一部描繪時代全景的小說。若以羅曼史而言，費爾汀將湯姆瓊斯塑造成一位和多位女性有複雜關係的花花公子，不過就另一方面而言，他對蘇菲亞的著了魔似的愛是絕對的。

這篇論文分為三章節，第一章節著重於亨利費爾汀的卓越寫作。第二章則是分析本書含有喜劇，史詩，和羅曼史三個文類的特色。最後一章節主要討論寫實小說家費爾汀如何將他的道德觀注入《湯姆瓊斯》一書。

關鍵詞：十八世紀英國小說,喜劇史詩,羅曼史,道德主義,人性



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