

Journey to the West

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Journey to the West was written in the sixteenth century during the Ming Dynasty and attributed to Wu Cheng'en. It is an important work that is based on the folk oral literature which was embellished by the writer. It is generally recognized as a masterpiece about deities and ghosts.

《西游记》写于16世纪明朝，作者为吴承恩。这是一部基于民间口头文学的重要作品，作者对其进行了加工润色。它被公认为是一部关于神与鬼的杰作。

The novel is a fictionalized account of the legendary pilgrimage to India of the Buddhist monk Xuanzang, and loosely based on the historic text Great Tang Records on the Western Regions and traditional folk tales. The monk traveled to the Western Regions during the Tang Dynasty, to obtain sacred texts. The Bodhisatta

Avalokitesvara (Guanyin), on instruction from the Buddha, gives this task to the monk and his three protectors in the form of disciples -namely Sun Wukong, Zhu Bajie and Sha Wueing together with a dragon prince who acts as Xuanzang's steed, a white horse. These four characters have agreed to help Xuanzang as an atonement (赎罪) for past sins.

这部小说是对佛教僧侣玄奘

印

度朝

圣传奇的

虚构描述，大致基

于历史文本《大唐西域记》和传统民

间故事。唐朝

时，这位僧侣前往西域以获取神圣的佛

经。观世音菩萨

（观音）根据佛陀的指示，将这项任务交给了这位僧侣和他的三位徒弟兼保护者，即孙悟空、猪八戒和沙和尚，以及一匹充当玄奘坐骑的白龙马

。这四位人物都同意帮助玄奘去西天取经并以此为自己的过去而赎罪。

Journey to the West tells how they went through the 81 adversities on their journey, each of which forms a relatively self-contained story yet still centers on the theme. It comprises 100 chapters which can be divided into four very unequal parts.

《西游记》讲述了他们在旅途中经历的81难，每一次都是一个相对独立的故事，但仍然围绕着主题。全书包括100章，可分为四个篇幅极不相等的部分。

The first, which includes chapters 1 to 7, is in fact a self-contained introduction to the main story. It deals entirely with the earlier exploits of Sun Wukong, a monkey born from a stone nourished by the Five Elements, who learns the art of the Tao, 72 polymorphic transformations, combat, and secrets of mortality, and through guile (诡计) and force makes a name for himself as the Qitian Dasheng, or Great Sage Equal to Heaven. His powers grow to match the forces of all of the Eastern (Taoist) deities, and the prologue culminates in Sun's rebellion against Heaven, during a time when he garnered (获得) a post in the celestial bureaucracy.

Hubris (狂妄自大) proves his downfall when the Buddha manages to trap him under a mountain and seals the mountain with a talisman (护身符) for five hundred years.

第一部分包括第1章至第7章，实际上是对故事梗概的独立介绍。这部分讲述了孙悟空的早期生平。孙悟空是一只由五行元素滋养的石头制成的猴子，他修行道艺、会72变、精通武斗和死亡的秘诀，诡计多端且法力无边，以“齐天大胜”而闻名于世

道教

术语）相抗衡。在小说的开场白中，孙悟空一度被委以天国官僚机构中的职位，但最终孙悟空成功大闹天宫而告终。狂妄自大导致了孙悟空的衰落，佛陀设法将其困在五行山下，并用咒符封山，一封就是五百年。

Only following this introductory story is the nominal main character, Xuanzang, introduced. Chapters 8 to 12 provide his early biography and the background to his great journey.

这个介绍性故事之后，才介绍了小说名义上的主角玄奘。第8章至第12章记述他的早期生平和他伟大旅程的背景。

The third and longest section of the work is chapters 13 to 99, an episodic adventure story which combines elements of the quest as well as the picaresque (传奇式流浪冒险事迹). The skeleton of the story is Xuanzang's quest to bring back Buddhist scriptures from Vulture Peak in India, but the flesh is provided by the conflicts between Xuanzang's disciples and the various evils that beset him on the way. The scenery of this section is, nominally, the sparsely populated lands along the Silk Road between China and India, including Xinjiang, Turkestan, and Afghanistan. The geography described in the book is, however, almost entirely fantastic: once Xuanzang departs Chang'an, the capital of Tang Dynasty, and crosses the frontier (somewhere in Gansu province), he finds himself in a wilderness of deep gorges and tall mountains, all inhabited by flesh-eating demons (魔鬼) who regard him as a potential meal (since his flesh was believed to give immortality to whoever ate it), with here and there a hidden monastery or royal city-state amid the wilds.

作品的第三个也是最长的部分是第13章至第99章，这是一个情节式的冒险故事，既有探索性质，又有传奇式流浪冒险的元素。故事的梗概讲的是玄奘从印度秃鹫峰带回佛经的过程，玄奘的弟子与路上困扰他们的各种妖魔鬼怪间的冲突则为整个故事提供了丰满的血肉。该段故事的发生背景为中印丝绸之路沿线人烟稀少的地区，包括新疆、突厥斯坦和阿富汗

。然而

，书中描述的

地理环境几乎完全是梦幻般

的仙境：一离开唐朝的首都长安

，穿越边境（甘肃省的某个地方），玄奘便发现自己身处高山峡谷的荒野中，每个

地方都居住着食肉恶魔，全都视他为是潜在的食物（因为他的肉被认为能让人长生不老），在荒野中到处都是隐秘的寺院或皇家城邦。

Chapter 100, the last of all, quickly describes the return journey to the Tang Dynasty, and the aftermath in which each traveler receives a reward in the form of posts in the bureaucracy of the heavens. Sun Wukong and Xuanzang achieve Buddhahood; Wujing becomes an arhat; Santaizi the dragon prince horse is made a n?ga (神龙) ; and Bajie, whose good deeds have always been tempered by his greed, is promoted to an altar cleanser.

第100章，快速描述了返回唐朝的旅程，以及每个旅行者在天堂官僚机构中获得职位奖励的结果。孙悟空、玄奘修炼成佛；沙悟净修成罗汉；三太子白龙马修成神龙；猪八戒的善行总是被他的贪婪所抵消，被提升为祭坛清洁工。

The classic story of Journey to the West highly praises the unyielding fighting spirit of Sun Wukong in his pursuit for immortality and reflects the long-cherished great expectations and ambitions of human beings. As far as artistic expression is concerned, the most striking features of the book are its eerie (诡异的) imagination and bald exaggeration by which the writer created a grotesque, gaudy, fanciful and magical world which broke the boundary between time and space, life and death, humans and deities. The book is thus permeated with an intense romantic flavor. In his characterization of such characters Sun Wukong and Zhu Bajie, the writer combines harmoniously the humanity they embody with the divinity and animality they incarnate (拟人化) , thus endowing each of them with distinctive individuality. The book provides the reader with a varied and colorful art gallery of deities and ghosts. The book is filled with witty and humorous remarks and displays a strong comic flavor because of the writer's skillful use of satire, together with a large amount of playful language. In a word,

Journey to the West opens up a new horizon of romanticism in the history of Chinese fiction. In addition, Journey to the West has been introduced to many foreign countries and has been enjoyed by overseas readers. It is a bright gem in the world literary treasure.

经典小说《西游记》高度赞扬了孙悟空追求不朽的不屈不挠的战斗精神，反映了人类长期以来的远大期望和抱负。就艺术表现而言，这本书最显著的特点是它通过怪

异想象和大胆的夸张，创造了一个怪诞、俗艳、幻想和神奇的世界，打破了时间与空间、生与死、人与神之间的界限。因此，这本书充满了强烈的浪漫气息。在对孙悟空和猪八戒等人物的刻画中，作者将他们所体现的人性与他们所体现出的神性和兽性和谐地结合起来，从而赋予每个人物独特的个性。这本书为读者提供了一个丰富多彩的神鬼艺术画廊。这本书充满了诙谐幽默的评论，由于作者娴熟的讽刺手法，加上大量有趣的语言，展现出强烈的喜剧色彩。总之，《西游记》开辟了中国小说史上浪漫主义

的新视野。此外，《西游记》已被介绍到许多国家，并受到海外读者的喜爱。它是世界文学宝库中一颗璀璨的明珠。

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