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# In the Past, It Was Unsightly to Return with Red Beans Read "Red Bean"

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#### **Abstract**

"Red Bean" tells the differences between the college students Jiang Mei and Qi Hong due to their different political positions and value attitudes on the eve of liberation in a flashback, thus showing the difficult and tortuous life of a generation of young intellectuals in the changing times. Mind journey. Zong Pu presents an aesthetic style with warm sentiment and subtle brushwork.

## **Keywords**

Red beans; Qi Hong; Freedom.

## 1. Introduction

After the "Double Hundred" policy was put forward in 1956, the writer Zong Pu created this short story "Red Bean" based on what he saw and felt at ordinary times, combined with his own experience of the youth campus as the theme of writing, to express the complexity of intellectuals under the changing times. heart. "Love" is only the external manifestation of this novel. Through the perspective of intellectuals, the author reveals the close combat of a generation of literati at the crossroads of life, as well as the inner satisfaction and joy after choosing the right path. The author uses a lot of symbols, metaphors and other techniques to express the thematic ideas of various aspects of the work. "Pink Oleander" is a portrayal of Jiang Mei's stable life. Difficulty in love, her mother's serious illness and the arrest of her best friend have disrupted her peaceful life; "Little Bird" is a sign of pursuit, the process of birds flying out of pink oleanders is the process of transforming from "a blank sheet of paper" young students to experienced revolutionary workers.

# 2. The Concept of Love in Different Worlds

Time goes by, and things change over the years. Can the red beans born in the southern country be reproduced in the white snow when the winter is cold?

I don't think so anymore. That young man with a peerless and noble temperament in the winter may be watching the heavy snow from somewhere on the other side of the ocean, and the girl with two red beans on her head has now grown into a thoughtful and active party leader. worker. The vigorous love eight years ago also disappeared with the snow falling year after year.

The love in "Red Bean" is a bit sad, and after reading it, there seems to be a wave of regret and regret in my heart. Maybe it's because of the yearning for a good love in my heart, or because of the initial impression of Qi Hong and Jiang Meilang's talented and beautiful appearance. I thought they might have a good ending, and the fact that it didn't turn out as beautifully as we imagined. They eventually separated, one went to live in the United States and the other joined the revolutionary camp. Read carefully, from the author's detailed description and foreshadowing, their ending may have been doomed.

It is true that in the stormy and turbulent era at that time, identity, status and political stance were very sensitive words, and also contained complex interpersonal relationships. The class

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and status of the hero and heroine are obviously different. Although they have an unfathomable love, under the impact of the wind and waves of the times, they can't completely abandon their family and life experience, and come together only on pure love.

Qi Hong is a young master of the bourgeoisie. His status is very good. He can study music, study physics, and pursue the freedom he wants without any worries. Although Jiang Mei grew up in an ivory tower, she was well protected by her mother and did not get a trace of dust. But her growing environment was completely different from Qi Hong's. The mystery of her father's death was solved and she knew the darkness of social and class antagonism. Her mother's illness made her shoulder the responsibility of saving money for her mother. Influence, the penetration of revolutionary ideas, opened up a new world for her life. The new revolutionary ideas and revolutionary activities she touched were worthless in the eyes of the young master Qi Hong. This is the conflict between them. The world in the eyes of the two people is completely different, how can they communicate for a long time.

## 3. "Little Birds" Will Eventually Grow Up

If political stance is one of the reasons for the tragedy of their love, then ideology is also an important reason for them to go to strangers. Jiang Mei and Qi Hong share many of the same interests. They can talk endlessly about Beethoven and Chopin, Su Dongpo and Li Shangyin, and Keats and Browning. Interests and hobbies are the source of their attraction to each other, and their differences in beliefs and ways of looking at things are the fuse for their final separation. In the article, they wrote about their exploration of freedom. Qi Hong's freedom is too narrow. He believes that freedom is to love oneself, and everything is up to oneself; Jiang Mei's understanding of freedom is for others, not for one person. From the root, their thinking is very different. Jiang Mei also knew in her heart that she and Qi Hong disagreed on certain things and could never achieve the same. Qi Hong is opposed to the ideas of the revolutionary Communist Party. He does not want Jiang Mei to participate in democratic activities, and does not like the viewpoint of the people. And these, Jiang Mei loves and likes. Favorite thoughts, favorite things, favorite friends, and being opposed by loved ones, Jiang Mei may feel very painful in her heart. Belief and unbelief cannot be yoked. Couples do not have the same beliefs, and even though they have the same knowledge background, they cannot make two hearts parallel. I believe that with the passage of time, Jiang Mei, who has grown into an excellent party worker, can understand this truth.

From the beginning of the novel, the seeds of Jiang Mei's growth have been planted. Her first life was as isolated from the world as a pink oleander, only to be beautiful alone. Under the oleander-like life hides the wind of her transformation. Those who are close to Zhu are red, those who are close to ink are black, and the arrival of Xiao Su has opened up a new world for her. Xiao Su took her to the choir and the New Poetry Society, took her to read poems by Ai Qing and Tian Tian, and took her to sing "The Yellow River Cantata". Jiang Mei will be amazed by these new things and consciously participate. Her mother also had a great influence on Jiang Mei. The book "Between Life and Death" made Jiang Mei realize what it means to struggle. Although she spent the twenty years of her life growing up behind oleanders, she hated power and money as much as her mother. From her mother's mouth, she also understands what "everyone" is, and understands the purpose of human life. Jiang Mei's thinking has always been progressive, and Xiao Su's name "Little Bird" also has connotations. The little bird will grow up slowly with the company of the strong bird. Jiang Mei is like a bird, growing wings and sharing the sky after all.

Compared to Qi Hong, his mind seems to be stuck in the same place. I always felt that Zong Pu was very fond of him. Not at all as radical as the descriptions of the bourgeoisie in other books. Instead, he was described as slender, with an ivory complexion, well-defined, and a bemused,

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dreaming air. His appearance was elegant. In the season of snowflakes, it came slowly beside the pink wall of Yuzhu, and when everything was silent, it was not surprising that such an arrival could make the beautiful and pure Jiang Mei fall in love. Good-looking skins are the same, and interesting souls are one in a thousand. Qi Hong's thoughts are too selfish and too extreme. He felt that the revolutionary world of that era was empty, messy and ugly. "I hate human beings, except you", such words are so terrible that people shudder. He even wanted to take Jiang Mei privately, such an idea would really cast a shadow on people's hearts. Jiang Mei was also unhappy around him. Many thoughts and pleasures were shared with Xiao Su, and she subconsciously didn't want to share them with Qi Hong... There is a reason for their final separation.

The oleander was swept up the steps by the wind, and the lightning flashed a pale light. Jiang Mei's love is like a blown flower, scattered into mud, never to return, and her friend Xiao Su has not returned. Jiang Mei really grew up. When parting, she told herself not to cry and survived the last minute. From acquaintance to breakup, Jiang Mei undoubtedly struggled. But in the end, she was sober, knowing that the love at this time could not affect her life. The "I don't regret" she repeated several times strengthened her conviction. I think that's something we should look up to.

## 4. Difficult Life Choices

In today's life, there are too many people who have lost themselves for love and are trapped in the dark quagmire, unable to extricate themselves. They always want to rely on their lovers to redeem themselves, but they do not know that the best redemption lies within themselves. Love is swift and hazy, and is feminine after being free from competition with the world. The most beautiful love we yearn for is to know each other well and have the same heart. Of course, the most important thing is to have a clear head, love is important, and self-independence is more important. Many times I hope that women in love can be like Jiang Mei, obey their hearts and not lose themselves because of indulging in love.

As a product of literary works of that era, it must be inseparable from ideology and politics. When love and revolution are linked, it's really hard to decide. By showing the love story of Jiang Mei and Qi Hong, the author shows us the love picture of that era. Once involved in political ideology, it must be a greater test for the lover. How to choose one's own life path and future in that turbulent era is an important life question. If you are like me, I don't know how to choose. The author reveals such a reality before our eyes, which is worth thinking about. I respect the author's compassionate heart and humane care for the young people at that time. The love that crosses classes may not succeed in the end, but I think it will leave a deep imprint on Jiang Mei's heart

Just like those two red beans, eight years later, they are still as fresh as new. Maybe she also had love sickness, but the person who picked it was no longer the same person. JiangMei regrets the lost love, but she will not regret her past choices. Her abandonment has made her progress and independence today, and she has become an excellent party worker. Many like-minded friends welcome her and move forward with her. For her, this is a new starting point, full of endless hope like the beginning of the sun. JiangMei will gain more nutrients and talents among so many excellent job accountants, and become a daughter whom her mother proudly praises.

The color of the bitter image of Jesus on the cross has been much darker, and the red beans of that year can only be placed in a box. The woman ran on the journey of hope, and everything was going well.

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## 5. Conclusion

Zong Pu's "Red Bean" basically broke free from the shackles of political consciousness in the 1950s and jumped out of the shackles of "love" and "revolution". Free humanistic care. Although it is a short story, the love story between Jiang Mei and the banker master Qi Hong reveals the hardships and difficulties of young intellectuals under the great changes of the times. The rich artistic tension and profound thoughts and emotions contained in this novel have far surpassed the work itself, implicitly showing the inner contradictions faced by young intellectuals in the torrent of pain and joy. Due to the different times and environments, readers have many differences in the interpretation perspectives of "Red Bean", but it is certain that Zong Pu's "Red Bean" is a successful love novel, which not only shows the love with the characteristics of the era at that time. At the same time, the portrayal of characters in it also shows the author's humanistic spirit and humanistic care, which has had a profound impact on the literary and art circles at that time and even now.

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