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# Feasibility Analysis of Bing xin's Personality and Spiritual Background in Writing Teaching

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#### **Abstract**

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Ma Zhengping mentioned in *Advanced Writing Thinking Training Course* that in the construction of students' writing personality and spiritual background, teachers should first select works to demonstrate and analyze the author's writing spiritual experience in the article. This article discusses the rationality of Bing Xin's chosen works in this link. It explores three aspects: Bing Xin's three major themes, the pursuit of "the true, the goodness, and the beautiful", and the combination of "human sounds" and "natural sounds". Finally discusses how to apply Bing Xin's these characteristics of the work in teaching.

### **Keywords**

Bing Xin; Truth, goodness, and beauty; Writing personality and spiritual background.

#### 1. Introduction

How teachers can make students feel the influence of writing personality and spiritual background on writing in teaching, Ma Zhengping put forward several guiding opinions in *Advanced Writing Thinking Training Course*, the first and essential step, the specific implementation is an analysis of the spiritual background of writing personality, namely Demonstration, Imitation and Practice.

The teacher selects an essay and analyzes the author's mental background in the report. We can understand it as demonstration.

Students imitate the teacher's personality background analysis method to analyze the spiritual writing background of an article and write the analysis results into an analysis essay. We can understand it as imitation and practice.

In the "Teacher Demonstration" section of hands-on teaching, teachers should pay attention to the popularity and breadth of writers when selecting writers' works, and choose the work of a writer that students are familiar with, which is conducive to students' understanding of the authors writing personality and creative background. This paper discusses the feasibility of Bing Xin's works in teaching.

## 2. Three Major Themes: "Mother's Love, Innocence of Children, Nature."

Writing personality is the abbreviation of "writing subject personality", which refers to the personality in writing and the dominant factor and force in the writer's idealized, personified, and aestheticized spiritual self-image because of writing. Bing Xin's collections of poems *Fantastic Stars* and *Spring Water* express the three major themes of maternal love, innocence of children, and nature. These three themes constitute the core of Bing Xin's thought, the "philosophy of love", which is the idealization, personification, and dominant forces in an aestheticized spiritual self-image.

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First of all, for the description of children' innocence. In the poems *Fantastic Stars* and *Spring Water*, many independent images are created with children' innocence, weaving an independent art world that "belongs to her most" and is full of unique aesthetic styles.

Secondly, the praise of mother's love. In Bing Xin's mind, the starting point of the love of human beings and all living things is mothers' love. So, going back to the source, the theme of motherly love is the basis of her love philosophy. She said: "With mother's love, the seeds of love are planted everywhere in the world, such as the mothers of all things love each other, the children of all things love each other, the love power in the universe, from this ever-changing, will flow and run. Bing Xin believes that maternal love is the source that nurtures all things and is the fundamental driving force that drives the world to light. "With love, everything will be there." In *Fantastic Stars*, she regards her mother's love as the most sublime and beautiful thing and praises it repeatedly.

Finally, there is the worship of nature. In Bing Xin's view, human beings come from the nature and belong to nature. Humans and characters should be in harmony: we are all-natural babies, lying in the cradle of the universe. This can be seen in Bing Xin's integration of maternal love, the innocence of children, and nature.

## 3. Main theme of "Truth, Kindness, and Beauty."

The formation of the personality background of the writing subject is a process of continuous construction and deconstruction. In this process, the pursuit of truth, goodness, and beauty constitutes the central theme of the writer's personality background construction and structure process. Bing Xin's "philosophy of love" fits this theme.

#### 3.1. Seek the Truth

Seeking truth is expressed as the accurate portrayal of Bing Xin's self-personality. The poetry collections *Fantastic Stars* and *Spring Water* were written in the winter of 1919. Bing Xin said that this is a collection of fragmented thoughts. In addition to the beauty of a mother's love, the innocence of children, and nature, this collection of poems is more about thinking and comprehending life. The delicacy of the girl's heart and her immature thinking about the nature of the universe is recorded in language, reflecting the record of her true heart in the form of poetry or a poetic expression of childlike innocence. Bing Xin's early works such as *Sending Little Readers*, *Miscellaneous Notes in the Mountains*, *The Past*, and *Going to the South* is not only the prose that belongs to her most but also the authentic portrayal of her true, good and beautiful self-personality. They combine Bing Xin's sincere personality, beautiful spirituality, and kind motto and are most suitable for young people to read as aesthetic education books. For Bing Xin, her style is herself, and her background of human-oriented character is unified as beautiful, elegant, and pure. To express oneself truly in prose is also to pursue the proper form.

#### 3.2. Seek Kindness

Fundamentally speaking, all human writing activities are from different angles, in different ways, and at different levels to explore, flog and promote human feelings and human nature, promoting communication and understanding, mutual assistance and love, to call for conscience and moral humanity. Because of this, the writer obtains the noble moral sense of the subject's life. Bing Xin has cared for others and the country and society.

Kindness to others. She argues that solves all the troubles and disputes in the world with love. Bing Xin's representative works in the early stage, such as *Sending Little Readers, Miscellaneous Notes in the Mountains,* and *The Past,* are a combination of her sincere personality, beautiful spirituality, and kind motto, representing her highest ideal of truth, goodness, and beauty. During the period when Bing Xin devoted herself to children's creation, she hoped to cultivate

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children into more honest, braver, and nobler children. Love is not only the literary matrix of her creation but also the value scale to measure things and spiritual destination for her.

Kindness for the country and the times. Bing Xin worked in the literary world for more than 70 years. She was not mentally strong enough in her later years, she only sometimes wrote short essays, but she never stopped thinking.

Bing Xin has always paid attention to and devoted herself to writing and actions with the broad love of "love the motherland, the people, and the children". It has made outstanding contributions to upholding and improving the multi-party cooperation and political consultation system under the leadership of the Communist Party of China.

## 3.3. Create Beauty

Writing is a beautiful way of creating and transcending life, and this way of creating beauty is formalization. Language is like a leaf on the branch of thought. As Bing Xin said: "I always want to write with 'truth' as the only condition for writing." "What I can't help rushing out is not the language that i follow the crowd, but the unique language that represents his own emotions." Bing Xin's language is beautiful and clean. In this short piece of *The Past (Part 2)*, the quiet thoughts and soft emotions are expressed through meticulous and beautiful language, writing the "somber" of the evening, the "velvet" of the snow pavilion, and the "heavy" heart of sorrow, all of which are extraordinarily touching hearts. Depressed because of the snow, her feelings about Su Dongpo's poems, her pursuit of the meaning of life, and other words are exquisite, smooth, and beautiful. Bing Xin's prose is an art world where the truth, kindness, and beauty are unified. She praises nature, sings praises for nature, admires the virtuous, and explores the truth. When the night was raging, and the earth was heavy, she told people to pursue the truth, the kindness, beauty, and hate the fake, evil, and ugly.

## 4. Dialogue between "Human sounds" and "Natural sounds."

In *The Making of Literature*, Bing Xin wrote: "A writer should always be close to nature. The beauty of nature is universal and permanent, and it should occupy a critical position in the material of literature. A writer should cater to him, contact him, use him, ask him to come into his thoughts, and dissolve into his own words. If only fancy piles of words are stacked in sentences, it will become dull, spiritless literature. Therefore, a litterateur should always be in harmony with nature, and he should always use pleasant objects such as musical instruments and paintings as his companions. In this way, his works are full of lovely sounds of nature and people." [1] The sounds of nature in Bing Xin's article: When the poetry collection Fantastic Stars praises nature, it describes several groups of images, such as "remnant flowers, birds" is related to life, "green buds, pale flowers, dark red fruits" is related to youth, "weak grass" is related to decorating the world with ordinary life, "clouds and moonlight" is related to maintaining a sincere and open heart. "Ordinary people's criticism and judgment are like a group of blind men speculating on the moonlight outside the clouds." "Flowers and stones by the track" connects with life's beautiful and ethereal encounters. When Bing Xin writes about natural things, it can always endow philosophy; it is the dialogue between humans and nature of the dialogue between the human spirit and the natural spirit of the universe. Bing Xin directly reminded readers in *Fantastic Stars*: "In the shadow of the light cloud and the moon, the wind blows the treetops, you must create your personality at that time."

The combination of human sounds and natural sounds in Bing Xin's works is also reflected in the prose. For example, *The Past (Part 14)* [2] is the works with the theme of the sea. When the author describes the goddess of the sea in his mind, he may use "beautiful as peaches and plums, cold as frost" to describe the brightness of the clouds on the sea and the gloom of the wind and rain. Or use a goddess with white clothes and blue clothes, a comb with a crescent moon on her

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head, and a star-shaped pendant flying gracefully to describe the beauty of the sea. Bing Xin thinks that humans are too small compared to the sea. The whole article renders the changes of the seascape bright and colorful and points to the mystery, tolerance, modesty, and expansiveness of going out to sea. Bing Xin realized the ideal realm of life from the delicate and graceful appearance of the goddess of the sea. Such as peaceful and quiet like the sea, transcendent and majestic like the sea, broad and profound like the sea, and open-minded like a valley. These characteristics inspire people to think about the true meaning of life, and the ideological connotation of the article is also sublimated. Another example is Bing Xin's masterpiece rosy clouds in his later years: "But it was not until decades later that I realized that there are more clouds, and the rays of sunshine are more beautiful. The rays of sunshine that emerge from the clouds are bright and colorful. Life will come to the season of 'it's only near dusk', The sunset may make people nostalgic and melancholy. But human life is neverending."[3] These words are bursts of all poetic wisdom and philosophy. Yu Dafu once commented: "To put a great rationale outside of language, the article expresses her true thoughts and expresses her sadness in a controlled manner; the sense of innovation is within the scope of legal license. It is a lady's life, the extremity of a lady's writing."[4]

## 5. The Rationality of the Application of Bing Xin's Works in Writing Teaching

The must-read items for extracurricular reading in elementary schools include *Fantastic Stars* and *Spring Water*.

Bing Xin's works have been selected many times in the Chinese textbooks of the People's Education Press for junior high school. *Paper Boat - Sending Mother* (2001 edition) and *Lotus Leaf - Mother* (2009 edition) both correspond to the theme "Family Love"; *Watching Dance* corresponds to the theme "Culture and Art"; *Talking about Life* corresponds to the theme "Life Education"; *Fantastic Stars* and *Spring Water* correspond to the theme "Thinking of Life", each selected essay has the theme, clear goals and focus. The unit themes corresponding to Bing Xin's works are human affection, culture and art, and life education. These works have varied themes, diverse genres, and rich themes which conform to the physical and mental development characteristics of junior high school students and meet their aesthetic needs of students. [5]

The truth, goodness, and beauty of Bing Xin's works are easy to understand and full of energy. It has become an enlightening and guiding reading material for young people in the period when the world outlook, values,s, and outlook on life are formed. Students have a deep understanding of Bing Xin and his works. Therefore, it is a wise choice to select Bing Xin's works to construct spiritual background.

## 6. How to Apply for the Bing Xin's Works in Teaching

In the middle school Chinese classroom, how to control and construct the students' writing personality and spiritual background, in addition to the essential activities of reading, appreciation, and increasing life experience after class, It is also necessary for teachers to let students understand the necessity of cultivating the background of writing personality in the classroom. So that students can make practical and meaningful choices in the reading process and consciously write their character and spiritual experience in the writing process.

On the one hand, Bing Xin's works are used as demonstration materials for cultivating students writing personalities and spiritual backgrounds, leading students to find out the creative intention of seeking truth, goodness, and beauty. They feel Bing Xin's praise of mothers' love and innocence and the worship and praise of nature and can also find the combination of the human voice and natural voice in the article. By analyzing the expression path of spiritual

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background, students can have a specific concept of spiritual background and focus on the performance of spiritual background in subsequent creations. On the other hand, Bing Xin's works are used as the object of reading so that students love nature, have expectations for life, and participate in social life to enrich the writing experience, enhance writing personality, and guide the pursuit of truth and goodness and creation of beauty in the spiritual background of writing nature.

In the seventh chapter of Ma Zhengping's *Advanced Writing Thinking Course*, they bring up training in personality dynamics and spiritual space. They mentioned the training focus: constructing personality background and spiritual freedom in reading, appreciation, and experience. Extensive reading is the primary way of cultivating the writing subject's personality. "reading is the primary way to form and refine the writer's subject's personality and spiritual background." [6] Students absorb the rich nutrition of writing in reading, experience the charm of the author's writing personality in reading, and feel the author's spiritual background in reading. They can focus on the cultivation and reflection of spiritual experience in writing practice and form constructive thinking of the spiritual experience of writing personality. With this thinking, when students choose to read books, they will consciously and actively choose books conducive to cultivating their own positive and healthy character and spiritual background and form independent writing content and style.

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