



C hina's Four Great Classic Novels

四大名著

徐刚 © 编著



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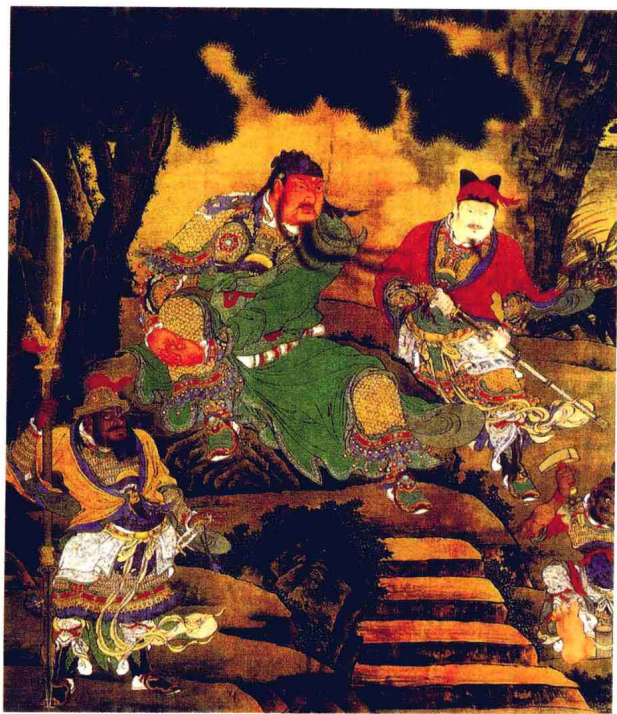
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(本版图书凡印刷、装订错误可及时向承印厂调换)

创作于明清之际的四部长篇小说——《三国演义》、《水浒传》、《西游记》、《红楼梦》，被誉为“中国古典四大名著”。这几部作品经过时间的淘洗却依然历久不衰，成

Known as China's Four Great Classic Novels, *Romance of the Three Kingdoms*, *Water Margin*, *Journey to the West*, and *Dream of the Red Mansion*, were written in the Ming and Qing dynasties (1368-1911). Withstanding the test of time, these four

masterpieces are considered to be the best classic works of literature ever written in China. The literary and social significance are showed in these works, which have a profound influence on ideology and value orientation of the Chinese people. This book applies vivid narration and direct and exquisite pictures in order to give the audience a general introduction on Chinese mural painting's origin, development, artistic style, theme and well-known masterpieces. Hope it can make them gain a further understanding on this ancient art





为中国文学中不可多得的经典著作。它们不仅具有极高的艺术水准，而且深刻地反映了中国人的思想观念和价值观取向，具有非凡的文学成就和社会意义。

本书首先对四大名著的作者、成书过程和主要内容作了简单介绍，然后重点介绍四大名著的主要人物和故事特色。通过这些分析，向读者展示中国古典四大名著的艺术魅力。

and learn to appreciate their charm.

This book begins with the brief introduction of the authors, the main idea and the background of the stories. It focuses on main characters and writing styles of four masterpieces. Reading this book, readers can appreciate the artistic charm of four classical Chinese novels.

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《三国演义》

Romance of the Three Kingdoms

《三国演义》是中国第一部长篇章回体小说，凭借其思想内容和艺术两方面的辉煌成就，成为中国文学史上一块重要的里程碑。它描写了从东汉末年黄巾军起义，到西晋初年三国统一近一百年的历史风云。全书反映了三国时期（220—280）的政治军事斗争，书写了那个年代各类社会矛盾的渗透与转化，揭示了时代的动荡与黑暗，人民的疾苦与希望，并概括了这一时代的历史性巨变，塑造了一批叱咤风云的英雄人物。

As a milestone in the history of Chinese literature, *Romance of the Three Kingdoms* is the first Chinese novel with each chapter headed by a couplet giving the gist of its content. It is a historical novel set amidst the turbulent a hundred years starting from Yellow Turban Rebellion at the end of the Eastern Han Dynasty and ending with the reunification of the Three Kingdoms in the early Western Jin Dynasty reflecting the political and military struggles as well as the penetration and transformation of various social contradictions during the Three Kingdoms era (220–280) of Chinese history. Dealing with people's hardships and hopes in a period of chaos and disorder, the book portrays a group of heroes in this historic change.



> 《三国演义》概述

《三国演义》别名《三国志通俗演义》，作者是元末明初的罗贯中。《三国演义》属于世代积累型的作品，即这一作品是在此前已有的相关史料和民间传说的基础上创作而成的。四大名著中的《水浒传》和《西游记》也属于这一类型。



> Synopsis of *Romance of the Three Kingdoms*

Romance of the Three Kingdoms was traditionally attributed to Luo Guanzhong, who lived sometime the (late Yuan and the early Ming period). Myths from the Three Kingdoms era existed as relevant historical data and folklore before written compilations. The other two masterpieces, *Water Margin* and *Journey to the West*,

• 罗贯中像

罗贯中（约1330—约1400），元末明初著名小说家、戏曲家，中国章回体小说的鼻祖。他精通军事学、心理学、智谋学、公关学、人才学等多种知识。他主张国家统一，弘扬民族传统美德，痛恨奸诈邪恶，是14世纪中国为数不多的伟大作家之一。

Portrait of Luo Guanzhong

Luo Guanzhong (approx. 1330—approx. 1400) is extolled as a well-known Chinese novelist, dramatist and the founder of chapter novel, that is, traditional Chinese novel with each chapter headed by a couplet giving the gist of its content. He was proficient in military, psychology, strategy, public relations and science of personnel. As one of the few great writers of the 14th century, he advocated national unity and traditional virtues and hated treacherousness.

were also compiled through eras.

Records of the Three Kingdoms compiled by Chen Shou of the Western Jin Dynasty (265-317) was prior to the advent of Luo Guanzhong's *Romance of the Three Kingdoms*. The major events in *Romance of the Three Kingdoms* were taken from this historical book, which was lied much in the vivid characters sketched in the novel. By the Southern Dynasty (420-589) Pei Songzhi opened the way for spreading the stories widely because he added lots of anecdotes and notes on *The Records of the Three Kingdoms*. These stories were often told by storytellers during the Song and Yuan dynasties (960-1368), which contributed to spreading. Since then, more stories related to the history of the Three Kingdoms appeared continually. Based on previous literary creations, Luo Guanzhong compiled *Romance of the Three Kingdoms*, the first Chinese chapter novel.

As the first chapter novel in the history of Chinese literature, one of the greatest achievements of *Romance of the Three Kingdoms* is among the most beloved works of literature exerting an ever expanding influence. The story happened in the final years of the Eastern Han Dynasty. The deterioration of the



• 《三国志》书影

Photography of *Records of the Three Kingdoms*

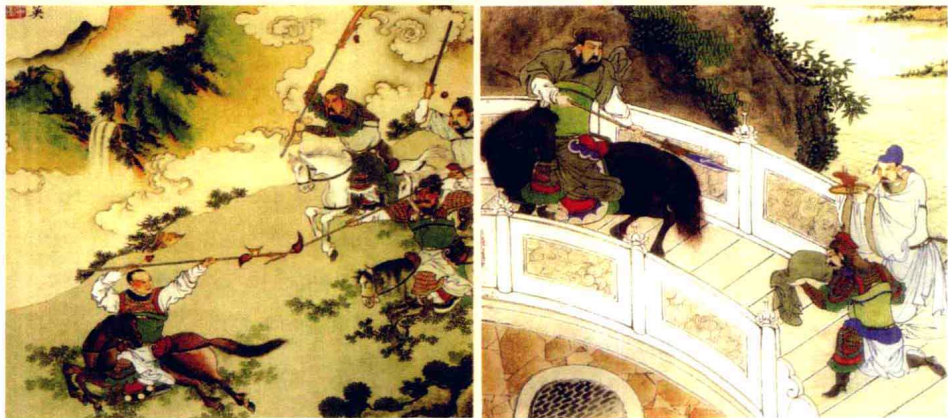
早在罗贯中的《三国演义》问世之前，西晋（265—317）的陈寿便著有《三国志》一书。该书是一部以记人为主、记事为辅的史书，《三国演义》的主要事件便是取自于该书。到了南朝时期（420—589），宋人裴松之为《三国志》作了注释，加入了很多奇闻轶事，从而为三国故事的广泛传播开辟了道路。宋元时期（960—1368），许多三国故事成为说书人经常讲说的内容，这进一步促进了三国故事的传播。此后又不断有关于三国故事的文学作品诞生。正是有了前人的这些文学创作，

章回体小说

章回体小说是中国古代长篇小说的主要形式。章回体小说一般篇幅较长，动辄几十万上百万字。为了方便读者阅读，作者往往把长短大致相当的情节分成段，标上回数 and 题目，此所谓的分回标目。回目一般为简洁的对偶句，由人物、事件、地点以及与之有关的内容构成，如《三国演义》第一回的回目“宴桃园豪杰三结义 斩黄巾英雄首立功”。

The Style of Chapter Novel

As one of the main forms of the ancient Chinese novel, the chapter novel has thousands or even millions of words. Authors tend to divide plots with similar length into different parts to be numbered and titled for the convenience of reading. Each chapter is titled by a couplet containing the people, events, locations and relevant contents. Taking *Romance of the Three Kingdoms* as an example, the title of Chapter One is “Three Heroes Swear Brotherhood in the Peach Garden; One Victory Shatters the Rebels in Battlegrounds”.



• 《三国演义》插图

An Illustration of *Romance of the Three Kingdoms*



• 年画《战马超》

马超奉命攻打刘备的阵营，刘备命张飞出战。张飞与马超都是武艺精湛的猛将，交战百余回合没有分出胜负。刘备担心张飞有失，下令命他回营。张飞回营休息片刻之后，再次出战。又打斗了百余回合，仍旧没有分出胜负。这时天色已晚，他使命士兵点起火把与马超挑灯夜战。画面表现的就是两人酣战的场面。其中右边骑黑马的人是张飞，左边骑白马的人是马超，在他们两旁还各有一个挑灯笼的人。

New Year Picture Zhang Fei Fighting with Ma Chao

When Ma Chao was ordered to attack the camp of Liu Bei, Zhang Fei went out to fight. Both of them were valiant generals. Neither of them won the battle after more than a hundred rounds of engagement. Apprehensive for Zhang Fei's safety, Liu Bei ordered him to return the camp. Having had a break, he returned to the battlefield again and fought with Ma Chao under the illumination of torches. This painting portrayed the fierce fighting between Zhang Fei and Ma Chao. The right one on a black horse was Zhang Fei and the left one on a white horse was Ma Chao. Two soldiers were carrying a lantern on each side of them.

罗贯中才得以将其加工、集成成中国第一部长篇章回体小说——《三国演义》。

作为中国第一部长篇章回体小说，《三国演义》也是中国流传最广、影响最深、成就最高的小说作品之一。其主要内容是：东汉末年，皇室衰微，各地起义不断。地处北方的曹操、西北的刘备和南方

empire led to continual rebellions in every corner of the nation. The three power blocs eventually set up three states of Wei, Shu and Wu led respectively by Cao Cao in northern area, Liu Bei in northwest and Sun Quan in southern area. The history of the rise and fall of the three kingdoms is depicted in narrative style. In addition to battle scenes, a great number of heroic characters are portrayed in this novel.



• 北京鬃人《三英战吕布》

《三英战吕布》讲述的是刘备、关羽、张飞三人大战吕布的故事。吕布英勇善战，一连斩杀了几员大将之后，各路诸侯都心生畏惧。这时刘备、关羽、张飞三兄弟主动应战，与吕布进行了一场酣畅淋漓的沙场血战，最终吕布战败，刘备、关羽、张飞三人声名大振。

Beijing Bristle Figures *The Three Brothers Fighting Against Lü Bu*

The Three Brothers Fight against Lü Bu tells a story in *Romance of the Three Kingdoms*. Liu Bei, Guan Yu and Zhang Fei were valorous enough to fight against courageous Lü Bu after several major generals were killed, which intimidated marquises. The reputation of the three brothers was greatly boosted after they defeated Lü Bu in this bloody battle.

的孙权通过不断的兼并战争，最终建立起魏、蜀、吴三大政权，形成了三足鼎立的局面。小说主要表现的就是魏、蜀、吴三国兴亡的历史。虽然《三国演义》以记叙历史为主，但在记叙了大量的战争场面之外，还刻画了众多英雄人物形象。

小说文字浅显，人物形象刻画深刻，情节曲折，引人入胜，历史意义和文学意义俱佳，具有极其深远的社会影响。现在所见的《三国演义》刊本以明代嘉靖年间（1522—1566）的版本最早，分二十四卷，二百四十则。清代毛宗岗父子又在此基础上做了一些修改，形成了现在最常见的一百二十回本。

The literary value of *Romance of the Three Kingdoms* lies much in the vivid characters sketched in the novel and the intricate plot written in simple but fascinating language; therefore, its influence has been profound and lasting in the history of Chinese literature. The earliest version we can get was compiled during the reign of Emperor Jiajing of the Ming Dynasty (1522-1566), which was initially published in 24 volumes and 240 chapters. Mao Zonggang and his father of the Qing Dynasty edited the text fitting it into 120 chapters, which has been the most common version so far.

北京鬃人

北京鬃人是北京特有的一种手工艺，距今有一百多年的历史。鬃人造型一般高十几厘米，用胶泥做头和底座，用秫秸做骨架，外绷彩纸（或绸缎）作为外衣，然后依据人物故事勾画脸谱、描绘服饰。因为在鬃人的底座上粘有一圈约二三厘米长的猪鬃，因此称之为“鬃人”。数个鬃人可以组成一组戏剧人物，玩耍时需要将鬃人放置于铜盘中，轻轻敲打铜盘的边缘，靠猪鬃的弹力，盘中的人物便会舞动起来，再配上京剧的唱腔，就如同真人在舞台上演出，生动有趣。

Bristle Figures

The bristle figure is a unique handicraft of Beijing dating back more than 100 years of history. The figure is generally more than 10 centimeters tall, whose framework is made of broomcorn straws covered with colored paper (or silk) as its clothing. Its head and the holder are made of clay. Facial makeup and costumes are painted based on different characters in a story. Bristles in 2 or 3 centimeters long are pasted on the rim of the holder, hence its name. A few bristle figures can form a group. Taking advantage of the elastic property of bristles, a group of dramatic characters will dance if the edge of the copper holder is tapped. Accompanied on voices in Peking Opera, they can act as vivid as real persons' performance on the stage.



• 北京鬃人
Beijing Bristle Figures

> 群雄逐鹿

《三国演义》塑造了一批英雄形象如刘备、诸葛亮、关羽、张飞，赵云、曹操、吕布、黄忠、庞统、孙权、司马懿……通过这些性格各异的人物形象，完整地勾勒了从三国



• 刘备像
Portrait of Liu Bei

> Vying for the Throne

Such figures with different characteristics as Liu Bei, Zhuge Liang, Guan Yu, Zhang Fei, Zhao Yun, Cao Cao, Lü Bu, Huang Zhong, Pang Tong, Sun Quan and Si Mayi in *Romance of the Three Kingdoms* are portrayed so vividly that a panorama of the history from the Period of the three Kingdoms to the Eastern and Western Jin dynasties is unfolded colorfully. The writer reveals the conflict between Liu Bei and Cao Cao, being in favor of Liu Bei's action, focusing on his bloc and eulogizing its main characters, while making supreme effort to reprimand Cao Cao.

Liu Bei (161-223) was the emperor who established the Shu regime during the Three Kingdoms Period in Chinese history. As depicted in the novel, born of extraordinary parents, he was a descendant of Han royalty. His father

到两晋这段色彩斑斓的历史画面。小说的作者在对三国人物的把握上，表现出明显的“拥刘反曹”的倾向，即以刘备集团作为描写的中心，对刘备集团的主要人物加以歌颂，而对曹操则极力揭露和鞭挞。

刘备（161—223），三国中蜀国的开国皇帝。小说中的刘备，出身颇不平凡，是汉景帝之子中山靖王刘胜的后代。他少年丧父，靠贩鞋、织草席为生。黄巾军起义爆发后，刘备曾经组建队伍镇压起义军而立下战功，被任命为县尉，但

passed away in his early youth. He was poor as a boy and lived on selling shoes and straw mats. After Yellow Turban Rebellion broke out, Liu Bei was appointed as the county magistrate because of his exploit in suppressing the army of Yellow Turbans, but resigned shortly. During the time of independent feudal regimes, Liu Bei's force was weak and he had to depend on others for living. He once sought refuge with others without obtaining his own territory after twists and turns. In despair, he sought assistance from Zhuge Liang (an outstanding statesman and strategist



• 刘备坐骑——的卢马

此马眼下有泪槽，额边生白点，传说这种马对主人不利。它的前任主人便是乘此马而亡。而刘备得到此马之后，曾经被官兵追杀，的卢马背负着他跳过数丈檀溪，摆脱后面追兵，使刘备幸免于难。

Liu Bei's Horse

This kind of horse has slots below eyes. There are white spots on its forehead. As the legend goes, it brought about disaster to his master as its former master was dead on the horseback. But when Liu Bei riding this horse tried to escape from killers' chasing, it jumped over the bottomless cliff Tanxi so that Liu Bei survived finally.

• 《刘备招亲图》棒槌瓶（清）

“刘备招亲”讲述的是：刘备早年曾经借了吴国的荆州作为自己的立足之地。当他势力逐渐强大之后，吴国便派人来索要荆州，但是几次都没成功。后来吴国便定下计策，邀请刘备前去赴宴，趁机扣留他，让他交还荆州。谁料当刘备到达吴国之后，被吴国君主孙权的母亲相中，将其女儿嫁给了他。于是，刘备吴国一行，不但没有损失，还娶得美人归。

A Club-shaped Vase with Design of *Liu Bei Heading for Wu for Marriage* (Qing Dynasty)

Liu Bei borrowed Jingzhou from Wu as his foothold in early time. Later when he gained ground, he was asked to return Jingzhou several times but Wu failed to get it back. Finally, Wu decided to trap Liu Bei into coming to Wu so that he was detained in exchange for Jingzhou. When Liu Bei attended the banquet in honor of him, out of Sun Quan's (the founder of Wu) expectation, his mother took a fancy to Liu Bei and announced Liu Bei and her daughter's betrothal. In the end, Liu Bei not only remained safe and sound but also got a beauty.



是不久后他便弃官。随后，各地诸侯纷纷割据，刘备也建立了自己的武装，但因势力弱小，经常寄人篱下。他先后投靠过很多人，但仍不能扩充自己的力量，情形十分狼狈。好在绝望之中，求得诸葛亮的辅佐，才得以逐渐壮大，最终在公元221年称帝，建立蜀汉政权。称帝之后的刘备，为了实现全国的统一，不断征战，最后在与吴国的交战中惨败，不久便病逝。

在《三国演义》中，刘备被塑

in the Period of the Three Kingdoms). Under his assistance, Liu Bei was officially proclaimed emperor in 221 A.D. Continual wars for his great cause of unification broke out. His troops suffered heavy losses in a battle with Wu. Shortly after that, he died of disease.

Liu Bei is portrayed as a benevolent emperor in *Romance of the Three Kingdom*. He was humble, courteous,