

# **Readers' Reception to Chinese Martial Arts Fiction A Case Study on Legends of the Condor Heroes, the English Translation of Louis Cha's Shediao Yingxiong Zhuan**

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The research is set against a background of the publication of Legends of the Condor Heroes, the English translation of Shediao Yingxiong Zhuan, an important work of one of the most well-known Chinese martial arts novelists Louis Cha Leung-yung, who is better known as his pen name, Jin Yong. However, although his fifteen novels have been translated into most Asian languages, only four of them have been officially translated into English since the 1990s. The recent published one, Legends of the Condor Heroes, has four volumes. The first volume, A Hero Born, and the second volume, A Bond Undone, were published in February 2018 and January 2019 respectively. The focus of this research is to find out how Legends of the Condor Heroes is received among readers and explore what factors can influence readers' reception.

The research will start with the overview of Chinese martial arts fiction and Jin Yong's martial arts fiction. The next part of this research will be the analysis of how readers respond to Legends of the Condor Heroes. With the help of computer software, the book reviews on Amazon and Goodreads, blog posts, commentaries, academic journals and review articles will be analysed qualitatively and quantitatively. In addition, the different functions of a review will also be analysed here. Next, based on those analysis results, factors that can influence readers' reception --- readers' preference, the quality of the original work, the style of the translator, the quality of the translation and the market factor --- will be analysed in detail.