

Toxic masculinity in Breaking Bad

the bad guys in movie always have the distinguished but complicated personalities or backgrounds where always turns out to cause all the contradiction in the episodes.

By Xiaohan Wu 110307126 class 3



breaking bad

Today, people seem to get bored with classic hero protagonists, as there exists such a factory producing the same characters in an assembly line following the same routine. Surprisingly, bad guys often get the best lines and got sculpted into various shapes to make them more vivid, it's easy to write different bad asses in multiple ways and attract the audiences to seek the their minds.

Then "Anti-hero" idea was introduced into many episodes naturally when needed. Just as people would get tired of seeing saintly Melanie Wilkes 100 more times than selfish Scarlett from <Gone With The Wind>. And a upright Edgar is always more vivid than his brother Edward in any version of <King Lear>. Our protagonist here, Mr Walter White, is a typical "Anti-hero" when we put him under the telescope observing the growth process of his evil deep inside.

In [breaking bad](#), what's worse could his situation be? A 50 year old man with no money, and plus he teaches chemistry in high school; a man with the pregnant wife; a man with the

disability son; a man got diagnosed bad lung cancer. With nothing to lose but a family to support, he risks to cook with desperation. At first, he sacrifices himself for the whole family. But as his ambition goes bigger, the motivation has changed. Once, after his wife Skyler found out his business and started to worry about his safety, he however told her that he wasn't in danger cause himself was the danger. The beast had been waken up once he found out how brilliant he was as a meth cook instead of teaching a bunch of kids that don't care in high school, and dealt with tons of disasters that he had to go through. And moreover, his friend who lives a good life has taken the academic finding he could've made million with by his intelligence away. Every piece of under the satisfaction in reality plus the cancer adds up together leads his way of drowning down with even faster pace.

I remember 3 scenes that Walter White has become a totally different person that everybody knows and it shocked even the audiences: after the meeting of Walter White Junior's high school meeting, they had pretty wild sex in the car, Skyler asked why it felt so good, "Because it's illegal." Said Mr White; when he got a lot of cash in selling his pure meth, he straight went to buy a Chevrolet Camaro later to drift around with a twisted good feeling face; At his birthday party, he forced his own son to drink pure vodka shots after shots while Hank nearby kept telling him to stop. They all came from one reason: he wants to control his own life; he wants to be the man.

It also reflects on how he fought with another intelligent business drug dealer Gus. They both wanted to come to power and use everyone who is still valuable, targeting on the goals accurately and executing the process perfectly to keep in balance. Once they are useless or the balance he created was broken, they became brutal by any means. Gus killed his own trusted man without blinking the eyes; Walter was unsatisfied with working under the dominance of Gus and finally murdered

Gus. Afterwards, his came to power and he became the man he wanted to be rather than becoming the father that he ought to be.

It was the death of his D.E.A brother-in-law Hank Schrader reminded him who he truly is. Even though he did all the crazy things and still thought he did that for his family until then he witnessed his own family member's death personally even though "Anti-hero" doesn't want to; he started out the whole thing but got every thing out of control. Finally his family faded away and that's when he realized his credo collapsed, all he did before was just to fulfil his own desire. At last, we saw him telling the truth to Skyler through the phone that he did it for himself because he was good at it and he liked it after claiming 100 of times that he did it for the family.

Therefore, the ending sounds reasonable: he died for his own will instead of a normal pathetic mid-age man dying of cancer. Somehow he controls his own fate. "It felt right and satisfying and proper to us that he went out on his own terms; he went out like a man," Breaking Bad creator Vince Gilligan shared in a recent podcast, describing the death of Walter White in the series finale.

Happy Marriage of Korean Fried Chicken and Beer

Beer and fried chicken-this seemingly unorthodox combo has been the most sought among young people after late-night snack recently in China because of a South Korean TV series. Many restaurants are serving this combo to attract customers.



By

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In the series "[My Love from The Star](#)," the main character tends to say: "It's time for some fried chicken and beer in a warm air-conditioned room." All of a sudden, on the tables of many dorms and in Weibo and Weixin (or WeChat) updates, the combo went viral.

Soon, it became a fad among young people who like to order fried chicken from restaurants such as KFC and McDonald's and eat them with beer. Smelling an opportunity there, some restaurants added fried chicken in the menu. It's reported that a cinema is considering replacing the traditional combo of popcorn and coke with a fried-chicken-and-kvass combo. Kvass is a light beer considered suitable for watching movie. Sim June-bo, owner of Barsak Chicken and Beer, a Korean restaurant in Beijing's Wangjing district, said he has noticed a significant increase in the restaurant's Chinese clientele since the show began airing.

"I have been doing fried chicken business for eight years, but this is the first time I've seen so many Chinese clients

coming to order fried chicken with beer," he said.

"In the past, 40% of our clients who ordered fried chicken were Chinese and 60% were Korean. Now it is 80% Chinese and 20% Korean," Mr. Sim said, adding that one day last week there were as many as 100 people waiting to get some fried chicken to go.

At another fried chicken takeaway joint in Wangjing, which is home to several Korean eateries, an employee surnamed Zhang said the restaurant also has seen a notable increase in business.

"Our daily revenue used to be about several hundred yuan, but since last month, it has grown rapidly and can reach as much as 3,000 yuan per day," he said.

Even those who don't follow the drama are falling for the chicken-and-beer craze. Mr. Li works for a media company said he went to a Korean chimek restaurant last weekend with some friends who are fans of the drama and waited in line for about two hours to buy some fried chicken to go.

"After I posted pictures from the restaurant, I got calls from my friends to ask me how to get there," he said.

And you'll be surprised when you use Weixin and put in beer and fried chicken, snow will fall on the screen, and it will also do when you search beer and fried chicken with Baidu search engine, the comment said it's fashionable.

My Love from The Star http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/My_Love_from_the_Star

Wangjing district http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wangjing,_Beijing

An eye-catching American political struggle TV play



A person's character is not determined by how he or she enjoys victory, but rather how he or she endures defeat. This is one of the classical lines in a popular American political struggle TV play which is called House of Cards. The play spreads as fast as epidemic virus around the world in 2014. The record of the audience rating is quite high in China. Previously, Chinese audience has shown great enthusiasm in traditional palace struggle TV play which sets the background in Qing dynasty. In contrast, we are interested in a TV play that is anchored in western political culture. Do not be surprised. It is magical power of House of Cards that makes it attract attention in China.

By: Yuyi Zhang 120104203 Class 1

Recently, House of Cards has been universally acknowledged around the world. It tells a complex political story about Francis Underwood who is a ruthless and sophisticated American congressman with his ambitious wife operates power in the White House in Washington DC. He firmly believed that the new president betrayed him because the new president did not keep his promise. Then Francis Underwood exploited a young reporter to achieve his own purpose by unscrupulous methods. In the play, you can experience fierce political struggle and witness politicians' insidious stratagem. It provides a chance for ordinary people to know more about political circles.

Beyond our widest imagination, House of Cards is also prevalent on the screen in China which country is famous for its complex political relationship. Although the TV play that is full of western political features, it still becomes a hit among Chinese audience. In fact, before House of Cards, a traditional palace fight TV play called [The Legend of Zhen Huan](#) is quite popular on the screen in China. The leading role Zhen Huan is one of an emperor's favourite concubines. She was a pure and innocent girl when she entered into the palace. However, the dangerous palace life and sophisticated relationship made her become more and more cautious and careful. In order to be the last winner, she had to compete with other cruelty concubines. A lot of audience lament that it is difficult and exhausted to live in the palace.



There is an interesting phenomenon that Chinese audience compare House of Cards with The Legend of Zhen Huan. They think both two TV plays show us some little-known stories behind the congress and palace. Maybe TV plays are exaggerated to some extent, but we cannot deny that they are attractive. However, Chinese audience deem that House of Cards is more meaningful than The Legend of Zhen Huan. The fight for power in the political circles is superior than the competence for attention in the harem.

What's more, not only president Obama appreciated House of Card but also one of the new Chinese national leaders [Qishan Wang](#) recommended it to public. He said that it can help us know more about policy and power. It is the first time that a Chinese leader makes high comments on a foreign drama, especially the drama is about policy. And this is a sensitive topic in China which has more than 5,000 years history and complex political system. Yuchen Zhang, a student from ZUMC says that the House of Cards is a mirror of current Chinese political situation even though it is an American TV play. As

the old saying goes, all crows are equally black, all wolves eat meat despite of capitalist system or socialist system.



As we all know, House of Cards is adapted from a novel written by an English author. With the hot broadcast, the original and translation also become best sellers in China. A loyal fan says that reading original book can bring you another wonderful world. Many people cannot wait to ask why House of Card is so eye-catching in China? Now, we conclude some reasons below:

- the TV play is of high quality including conception, scene and performance
- few Chinese TV plays reflect volatile political conflicts
- many political celebrities recommend it including a Chinese national leader
- it is a kind of cultural exchange between the eastern and western countries
- it exposes political secrets that public have great interest in

Do you want to watch this magic TV play? Do you want to know more about why Chinese audience are enthusiastic about it? Click this [link](#) , you will understand. In addition, if you want to buy original books, you can try this [link](#).

War on women—the mystery of Claire Underwood



ite, heinous plot between evils has all along been popular. The protagonist (usually male lead character), who is always loath for their depraved deeds, is yet controversial and admire at, making the female counterpart existence seems much lower in status, until there comes [Claire Underwood](#)

By Xiaohan Wu 110307126 class 1

There have been a few adequate comparable women, but they weren't as bad as men. Instead, female characters have changed and seem like becoming men's "ally". The disapproving party-pooper wife, Skyler white in "Breaking Bad" for example, is

not a very popular figure among viewers. There has yet to be a strong female antihero who stands equal to her – until Claire Underwood shows up at the TV shows called [House Of Card](#).

Claire Underwood portrayed by Robin Wright. She's the wife of Congressman Frank Underwood and she runs an environmental non-profit. The whole life aim of hers is to advance her husband's political career without any consideration, and to empower herself through the gradually change of her husband's position . In order to accomplish her intentions, she is willing to do anything such as lies, manipulating somebody's life, and end the life of a woman's fetus. She is not a feminist hero. She is the most unscrupulous and evil female character from the TV shows that I have seen so far. Although there is occasional guilt, she has chosen to continue with her evil acts.



There is a scene that impresses me most, and also it builds my root conception of Claire. When she fires 18 staff members because she wants to proceed with the well building project but with insufficient budget. At this situation, She needs to reduce the company's cost. However, She has her office manager to do this dirty work for her and afterwards she fires this manager. This creates an impression of her that I will never forget the image of scheming and wily, and she stands firm with her decision.

What's more, Being more intensified, in the season ☐☐ Claire finally got off the couch and started her own inveigling. In order to carry her points, She threatened her former coworker, Gillian's unborn baby's health and safety, and betrayed her lover Adam, tarnishing his reputation to cover her own. Even

worse, she gave up her own anti-rape bill to fulfill her own selfish agenda, which further led to Megan's suicide attempt. She looks so persistent about their goals, but also as elusive as the fog. There is no doubt that Claire is an anti-hero in Season 1. Compared to the people like Nancy Bowtin and Walter White, she and Frank aren't just the epitome of the female and male schemers; they are abdominal black enough to recognize the essence of world, cruel and selfish. Claire finally got off the couch and started to do some of her own inveigling in the second season. She threatened the health and safety of former coworker Gillian's unborn baby, betrayed her former lover Adam by tarnishing his reputation, and eventually dropping her own anti-rape bill to fulfill her own selfish agenda, which further led to Megan's suicide attempt. Claire is undoubtedly an antihero in Season 2, but she and Frank aren't just the epitome of the female and male schemers; they are so much more than the Nancy Bowtin and Walter White of Capitol Hill.

Conversely at the end of season 2, when Frank finally owns his power to enter the Oval Office with many best wishes, Claire refuse to share this significant moment and honor to walk in with him. I would believe that this is because she hesitates how much longer she can walk with him and what other sacrifices she has to make in order to continue to walk with him.

When ELLEN show strikes china

In 2013, SOHO bought the only copyright of ELLEN SHOW (which is one of the hottest talk show overseas) in china. It's also the first American talk show broadcast in china, after a quarter, the playback amount of Ellen show is up to 48 million. Do you want to know how the cooperation is going on?

By: yuzhu hao 130306238 class2



At the beginning of 2014 ,Ellen sended her respects to Chinese for Ellen Show formally came to china and she was rared to express her shyness because of her poor Chinese skills ,not including one simple word, 'nihao'.

For getting more close to Chinese audience, she promised to try her best to read Chinese fans' name in Ellen show as long as you send a 100 RMB with your name and blessings to 'The Ellen DeGeneres Show', Yes, it's true, we all know that Chinese name is very difficult to pronounce for foreigners., but actually, the fact is she kept her promise and really did a good job in the following issues, of course, she also received a considerable sum.. It's no wonder there is an increasing number of audiences to admire her due to her funny and sincere personality!

Besides, Chinese audiences also expressed their passion to Ellen show; there are some comments about the show I picked up from weibo

“Being moved naturally□it encourages me”

“ An excellent talk show □let me rediscovering American□that's may be the reason why they are so powerful ,both of the host and the audiences are kind ,sincere, personality and independent”

“People have rights to purse their value□even if you don't like it ,please respect them”

“SOHO is so sweet! Can you guys add to some issues last year?!I love Ellen”

“Adam Levine!!!Oh, my godwit wants to die in his arms... ”

“That’s good no Chinese subtitle, it can help some of Chinese people to improve English learning”

Hey, all the feedback is great to see! Firstly I need to admit that Ellen show is different—it’s suitable for all ages through interview ,joke ,game .it brings us positive energy and joy—Chinese audiences are easy to accept those kind of expression .Besides, with American movies and TV series booming ,Chinese become more curious about foreigners’ lifestyle and the attitude about some sensitive issues like homosexuality cultural conflict—racial discrimination etc...Ellen show all make good explanations for them .in Chinese talk show ,they put more emphasis on arousing one’s enthusiasm or fervor, showing how did those guests achieve their dream and get today’s position. By comparison, Chinese find the difference between domestic and foreign in TV show —Ellen Show is more casual various—interactive than domestic programs —so we own another choice to enjoy our free time with a fresh program style. It’s a nice try to enhance both states’ communication.

WhenEllen Show strikes China—what’s happened? Without doubts! Spark comes out!

We all expect more cooperation between different states. Love ELLEN SHOW!

links:<[Ellen Show](#)>

Watching TV is equal to researching culture



Chinese TV industry has increasingly developed in the past few years. But nowadays, it is not mature. Now, let us have a talk about this well-known industry to show the different culture from China to the other countries.

By Sui Rong 130409118

Focusing on TV SHOWS

There are many kinds of TV shows, but expressions vary from country to country. Owing to the population of China is large, Chinese TV shows have to more close to life and meet the need of different people. But today, good shows is lack. When an amazing TV show enters Chinese TV market, it is easy to become

hot. Many Chinese TV shows study from other countries. For example, "The Voice of China" is from Holland. And this foreign TV show mixes Chinese characteristics. In this way, it attracts many audiences to watch it weekly and provides a dream stage for ordinary people who love singing. Many people who are from this stage become a real singer and now have their own cruise concert. It is worth learning from foreign TV shows, because they have many novel ideas.

Focusing on TV SERISE

And American and English TV series are popular in China too. They are the same with Hollywood movies, many people are addicted in them. "Friends" is a success. "Friends" theme cafe is even set up in many big cities in China. While bringing happiness to audiences , they also let people know American life styles and some manners. For Chinese audiences, these series open up a different world for them.

However, apart from American neighborhood comedy and detective action series , the series about family is popular in China recently. They always talk about the complex relationship between mother-in-law and daughter-in-law. Showing the conflict usually happen in Chinese daily life makes funny. - Mother-in-law and daughter-in-law Mother-in-law and daughter-in-law Mother-in-law and daughter-in-law.

Focusing on TV ADVERTISEMENT

As for advertisements, I have to say it is a kind of necessary economic means to support TV industry's development .

In my view, Chinese ads tend to actors' performance, color and something visual. Therefore, ads are easily accepted. Comparing with foreign ads, the frame is simple and clean and the words are like story that someone is telling you.

All in all, many aspects show that public media industry is also a culture industry. Exchanging western and eastern culture will make it better. TV has many opportunities and

challenges. We should communicate deeply and look forwards to Chinese TV. I believe it will bring us more surprise.

<http://www.baidu.com>

Attention, here is colorful life!

Your one source into the fashionable and modern lives of what you always want. It has become a very important part in your lives , whoever loves it , do you really wanna know it? Perfect , you know you love me .

By Shuai Zhou 131105124 Class 1



our life with it.

The most pervasive and persuasive of modern technologies, marked by rapid change and growth is moving into a new era, an era of extraordinary sophistication and versatility, which promises to reshape our lives and our world. It is an electronic revolution of sorts, made possible by the marriage of television and computer technologies. Yes,

it is "[Television](#)".

The word "television", derived from its Greek (tele: distant) and Latin (visi sight) roots, can literally be interpreted as sight from a distance. Very simply put, it works in this way: through a sophisticated system of electronics, television provides the capability of converting an image into electronic impulses, which can be sent through a wire or cable. These impulses, when fed into a receiver, can then be electronically reconstituted into that same image.

Television is more than just an electronic system, however. It is a means of expression, as well as a vehicle for communication, and as such becomes a powerful tool for reaching other human beings.

Some people believe that television has destroyed communication among friends and family. I think this is an exaggeration. In my opinion, whether or not television hurts communication depends on what type of program is being viewed. More importantly, it depends on the type of viewer. Which type do you always stay?

There are empty programs and educational programs. Empty programs do not challenge people. They have just enough story lines to keep them from switching channels. There are also passive and active viewers. A passive viewer will just watch television without thinking, never share or talk about it. But, the active viewers watching educational programming always want to share what they see with friends or families. "Educational" doesn't necessarily mean documentaries. They could be dramas with realistic relationships or action shows with clever plotlines. When active viewers watch programs, they have ideas and talk about them with others. Good programming inspires them to change their thinking and their lives. Hence, being an active viewer is important, and this is a way to have a colorful life.

Today, you can get more from it, the modern scientific and technological knowledge, social and economic activities, some impossible fantasies come true by TV shows, if you want, you can find a wife or husband through it. Thus, what are you waiting for? Turn on the TV!

Big bang theory, big bang geek



“ B a z i n g a ! ” i s i t f a m i l

iar to you? Yeah, it is the pet phrase owned by Sheldon, a

very peculiar character in our daily life, but an ordinary weirdo in an American drama "Big Bang Theory".

By: Yuexin Hu 130307234 Class 3

The big bang theory deals with stories between four weirdoes and a sexy woman, Penny. The men didn't show off V-shape carves but attracted us with their odd signatures. In fact, it was the combination of the weird and advanced people that made it different, producing a better theatre. They are called "[GEEK](#)".

With this play hitting the big screen, a group of new human beings which named geek was created. Thus, these geeks were thrust into the spotlight. When it comes to geek, the first thing flashes on people's mind are wisdom, creativity and, stubbornness. The word geek is a slang term originally used to describe eccentric or non-mainstream people, with different connotations ranging from an expert or enthusiast to a person heavily interested in a hobby, with a general pejorative meaning of a peculiar or otherwise dislikable person, especially one who is perceived to be overly intellectual.

Although often considered as a pejorative, the term is also used self-referentially without malice or as a source of pride. Its meaning has evolved to connote "someone who is interested in a subject (usually intellectual or complex) for its own sake". But historically, a geek was a circus person in the sideshow who performed some bizarre feat. Over time, the meaning of geek has changed to include anyone with an obsession that places him outside mainstream society.

We gradually take it for granted that geeks are someone with higher IQ but poor EQ. We formed such mind-set that maybe when we are shopping, geeks are making formula derivation, when we are chatting, geeks are experimenting, when we are sleeping, geeks areknock it off ! They are certainly sleeping too. They are not all-nighters or iron men, but personify the

worship of technology .

In 1952, the short story "The Rolling Stone" wrote by Robert Anson Heinlein put forward the word "geek" firstly to describe someone who is fond of science, math and technology. At first, this word often used on transistors and integrated circuits fanatical technical staff in the 1960s and 1970s like Steve Jobs and Bill Gates. They are surely a digital dude for a digital age. They do all share one very crucial characteristic that they look like space alien come from some other planet.

Geek, the darling of the time, the trouble-shooters of the subculture, come to the center from the edge of the world gradually. Especially with the coming of the television age and the increasing emphasis on technology in all quarters of our society, many factors would have us believe that the time of geeks are coming. Geek has a world that is the combination of reality and fantasy. Believe it or not, geeks are everywhere around us, we will know and understand more from what they de one day.

Broadly speaking, this is the big bang time of geeks !