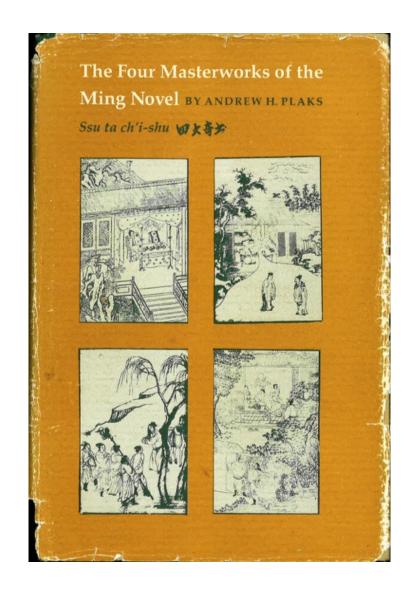
Early Modern Forms of Chinese Algorithmic Play: Database Attractions and **Iconographic Interaction** in Shuihuzhuan/Suikoden.

Paize Keulemans

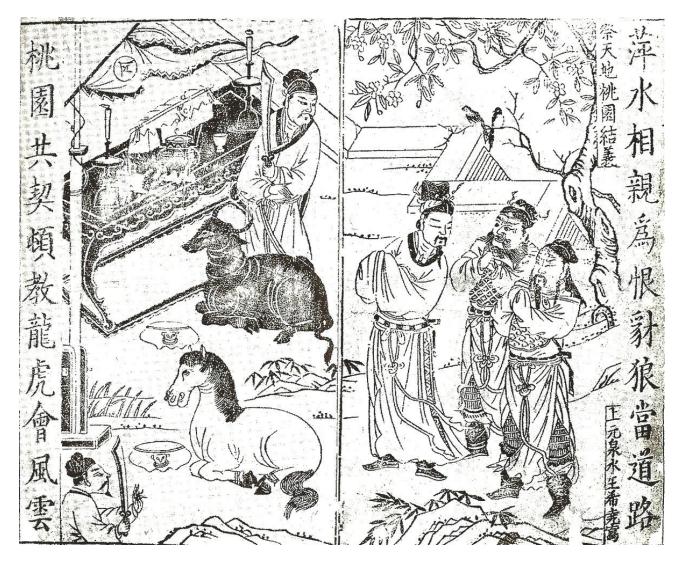
Princeton University



Four Great Novels of the Ming

- 1. The Three Kingdoms 三國演義
- 2. Outlaws of the Marsh 水滸傳
- 3. Journey to the West 西游記
- 4. Jin Ping Mei 金瓶梅詞話

Old novel



Romance of the Three Kingdoms (Wanjuan lou edition, 1591)



Total War: Three Kingdoms (Creative Assembly, 2019)





Old Novel

Yashima Gakutei (1786-1868)

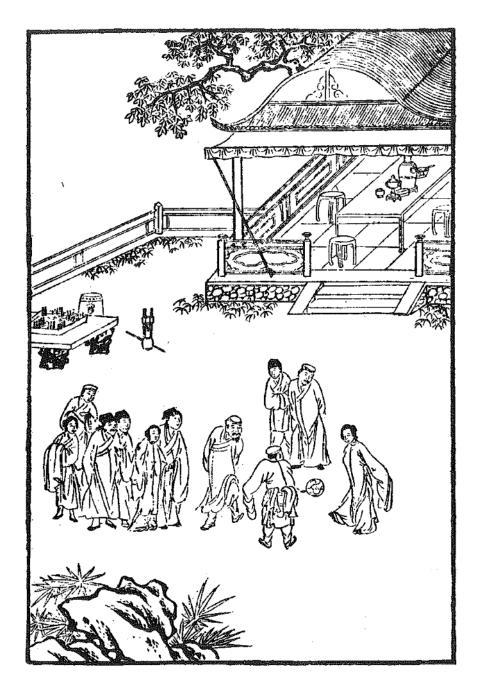


New Games

League of Legends (Riot Games, 2009)







Old Novels

Jin Ping Mei 金瓶梅



Old Novel

Outlaws of the Marsh, Chapter 22,

commentaries Jin Shengtan (1610?-1661),

New Games: Suikoden IV (Konami, 2004)



戶 蟲却 臉○衣怪 只○來、一○法作 性、 工 紫編 打○ 事 一○雙○磬○戸一 告、

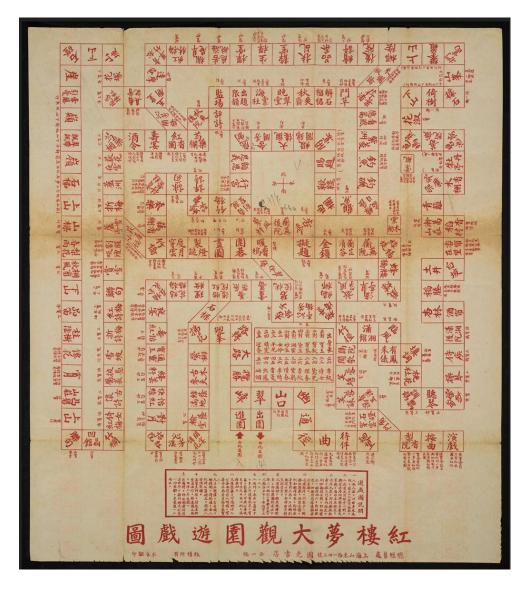
Old Novels, New Games: Methodology

1. Games Based on Novels

2. Games Situated in Novels

3. Games as Novels and Novels as Game

Games Based on Ming Novels



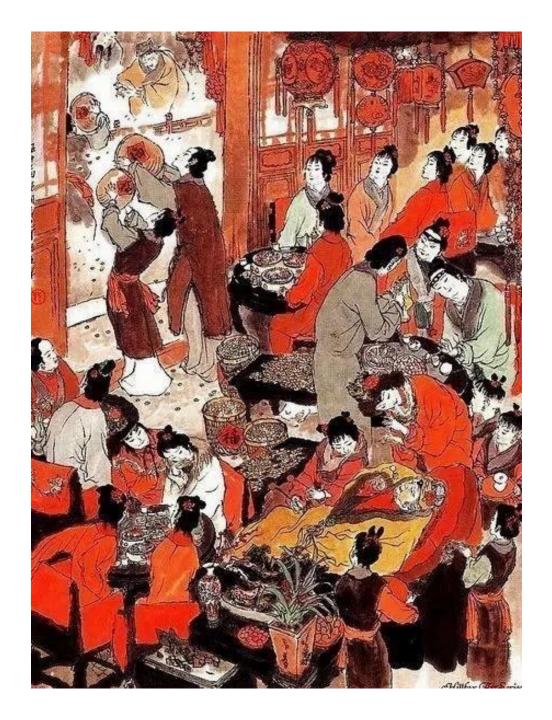
Grand Prospect Garden Game Map

(Guoguang shudian, 1935-?)

Cotsen Children's Library Princeton

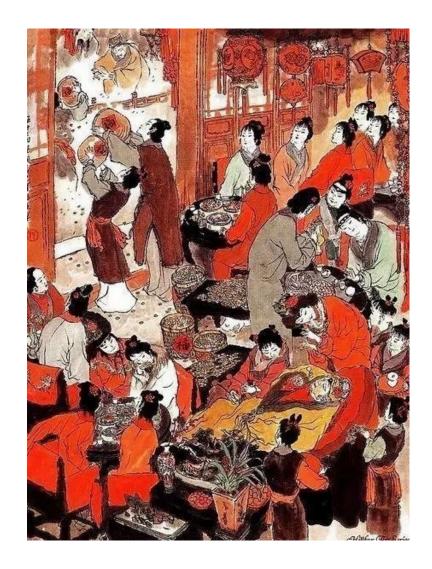
Games in Ming Novels

Hong Lou Meng, Chapter 22, "Jia Zheng Sees Portents of Doom in Lantern Riddles 制燈謎 賈政悲讖語."



Novels as Games





The Novel (and its plot) as a (Non-)linear Maze
The Novel (and its language) as an A-temporal Riddle

Ming Novels are not Really Novels (at least not in a Western 19th Century Sense)

- No: psychological depth or character development
- No: new developments, new plots, never before seen scenes
- No: immersion into fictional worlds through realistic descriptions

Database Attractions and Iconographic Interactions In Shuihuzhuan/Suikoden



Genso Suikoden 幻想水滸伝

- Konami
- Yoshitaka Murayama 村山 吉隆
- PlayStation
- December 1995
- JRPG (Japanese Role Playing Game)







Suikoden Battle System



Magic Island

Lenankamp

Village of Dwarves

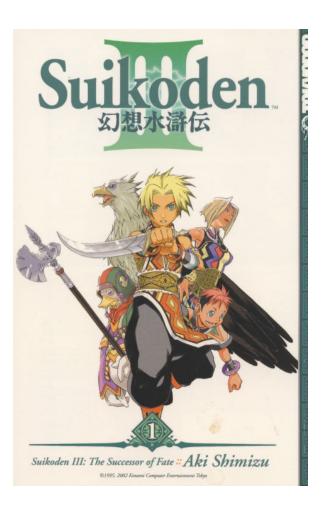
Village of Elves

(C) Black Silver / Suikeden3.de

Pannu Yakuta

Kwaba

Suikoden Imaginary World

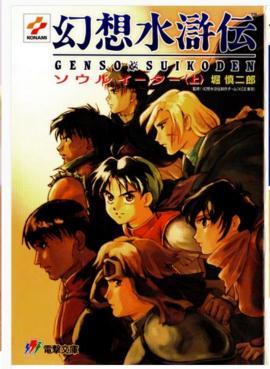
















C0193 ¥540E

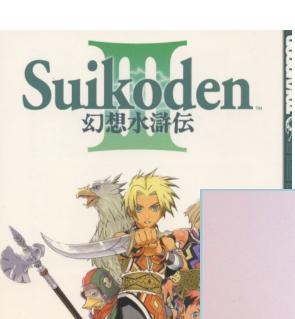


発行●メディアワークス



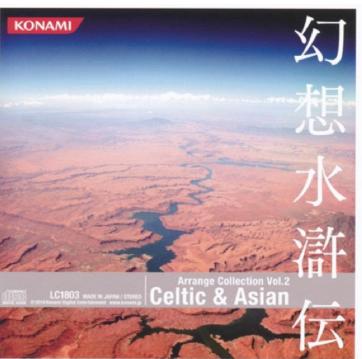
ISBN4-8402-1367-4











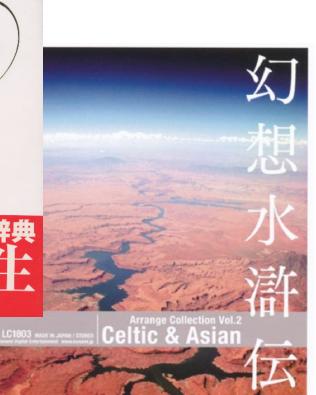




Suikoden III: The Successor of Fate :: Aki

©1995, 2002 Konami Computer Entertainment Tokyo











Suikoden? Microfiber Mini Towel? I? Hero

by Broccoli

Be the first to review this item

Price: \$69.00 + \$10 shipping

Note: Not eligible for Amazon Prime.

In stock.

Estimated Delivery Date: April 13 - 18 when you choose Expedited at checkout. Ships from and sold by jpgoodsshop.

- Japan import
- . (C) Konami? Digital? Entertainment



Set during Suikoden 1, around 3/4ths into the game. 3Plus, Bi, Exhib, Fingering, HJ, M/F, Oral, PWP

Author [Streti] -:- Rated [Adult++] -:- Chapters [2] -:- Published [2015-06-30] -:- Updated [2015-10-23 14:36:14] -:- Edited [2015-10-23] -:- Hits [1685] -:- Reviews [8] -:- Average / Total Vote [+++++ / 11]

Victory Pose

Zenoa and Ordovic grow close. COMPLETE, Fingering, M/F, Oneshot, Oral

Author [Rezalda] -:- Rated [Adult+] -:- Chapters [1] -:- Published [2014-01-05] -:- Updated [2014-01-05 20:20:43] -:- Edited [2014-01-05] -:- Hits [259] -:- Reviews [1] -:- Average / Total Vote [- / 0]

End of Days

Regius prepares for his new life. COMPLETE, M/F, Oneshot, Oral

Author [Rezalda] -:- Rated [Adult+] -:- Chapters [1] -:- Published [2013-12-02] -:- Updated [2013-12-02 04:13:09] -:- Edited [2013-12-02] -:- Hits [297] -:- Reviews [0] -:- Average / Total Vote [- / 0]

Bandit's Rush

The place is weird and a little creepy, but Koyu hasn't been having any trouble getting to know some of the more... unusual inhabitants of North Window castle. (now with Koyu/Bob) HJ, M/M, Minor, Oral, Voy

Author [xax] -:- Rated [Adult++] -:- Chapters [2] -:- Published [2010-03-08] -:- Updated [2012-02-12 23:19:54] -:- Edited [2012-02-12] -:- Hits [911] -:- Reviews [0] -:- Average / Total Vote [+++++ / 1]

Diving for pearls

(Suikoden IV) Kika and Lino - a king, a queen, a bath and a bottle of wine. M/F, Oneshot, Oral

Author [masserect] -:- Rated [Adult+] -:- Chapters [1] -:- Published [2011-12-05] -:- Updated [2011-12-05] -:- Edited [2011-12-05] -:- Hits [700] -:- Reviews [1] -:- Average / Total Vote [+++++ / 1]

In from the rain

Sappy "what if" fluff. Several years after the war, Tir and Kasumi have grown close. When she comes in from the rain, he is eager to warm her up. M/F, Oneshot, Oral

Author [masserect] --- Rated [Adult+] --- Chapters [1] --- Published [2011-11-23] --- Updated [2011-11-23 2::28:16] --- Edited [2011-11-23] --- Hits [809] --- Reviews [1] --- Average / Total Vote [+++++ / 5]

Steamy Memory

As the Blue Lightning relaxes a bit from the hectic war, he reminisces about his love. Takes place during Suikoden II Fingering, M/F, Oneshot, Solo

Author [Void of Mist] -:- Rated [Adult+] -:- Chapters [1] -:- Published [2011-09-01] -:- Updated [2011-09-01 20:20:28] -:- Edited [2011-09-01] -:- Hits [553] -:- Reviews [1] -:- Average / Total Vote [++++ / 1]

The Wall of Moans (Suikoden I cameo project)

First part of a Suikoden sex story featuring reader cameos. Currently discontinued. Moresome, SI, M/F

Author [Streti] -:- Rated [Adult++] -:- Chapters [2] -:- Published [2007-09-27] -:- Updated [2011-08-14 19:57:16] -:- Edited [2011-08-14] -:- Hits [4036] -:- Reviews [23] -:- Average / Total Vote [+++++ / 9]

Set during Suikoden 1, around 3/4ths into the game. 3Plus, Bi, Exhib, Fingering, HJ, M/F, Oral, PWP

Author [Streti] -:- Rated [Adult++] -:- Chapters [2] -:- Published [2015-06-30] -:- Updated [2015-10-23 14:36:14] -:- Edited [2015-10-23] -:- Hits [1685] -:- Reviews [8] -:- Average / Total Vote [+++++ / 11]

Victory Pose

Zenoa and Ordovic grow close. COMP Author [Rezalda] -:- Rated [Adult+] -:-

End of Days

Regius prepares for his new life. CON Author [Rezalda] -:- Rated [Adult+] -:-

Bandit's Rush

The place is weird and a little creepy, Author [xax] -:- Rated [Adult++] -:- Cha

Diving for pearls

(Suikoden IV) Kika and Lino - a king,

Author [masserect] -:- Rated [Adult+] -

In from the rain

Sappy "what if" fluff. Several years aft Author [masserect] -:- Rated [Adult+] -

Steamy Memory

As the Blue Lightning relaxes a bit from Author [Void of Mist] -:- Rated [Adult+]

The Wall of Moans (Suikoden I camed First part of a Suikoden sex story feat Author [Streti] -:- Rated [Adult++] -:- C



Reviews [1] -:- Average / Total Vote [- / 0]

Reviews [0] -:- Average / Total Vote [- / 0]

/ castle. (now with Koyu/Bob) HJ, M/M, Minor, Oral, Voy views [0] -:- Average / Total Vote [+++++ / 1]

:- Reviews [1] -:- Average / Total Vote [+++++ / 1]

Oneshot, Oral

:- Reviews [1] -:- Average / Total Vote [+++++ / 5]

-:- Reviews [1] -:- Average / Total Vote [++++ / 1]

Reviews [23] -:- Average / Total Vote [+++++ / 9]

Set during Suikoden 1, around 3/4ths into the game. 3Plus, Bi, Exhib, Fingering, HJ, M/F, Oral, PWP

Author [Streti] -:- Rated [Adult++] -:- Chapters [2] -:- Published [2015-06-30] -:- Updated [2015-10-23 14:36:14] -:- Edited [2015-10-23] -:- Hits [1685] -:- Reviews [8] -:-

Victory Pose

Zenoa and Ordovic grow close. COMP Author [Rezalda] -:- Rated [Adult+] -:-

End of Days

Regius prepares for his new life. COM Author [Rezalda] -:- Rated [Adult+] -:-

Bandit's Rush

The place is weird and a little creepy, Author [xax] -:- Rated [Adult++] -:- Chi

Diving for pearls

(Suikoden IV) Kika and Lino - a king, a Author [masserect] -:- Rated [Adult+] -

In from the rain

Sappy "what if" fluff. Several years aft Author [masserect] -:- Rated [Adult+] -

Steamy Memory

As the Blue Lightning relaxes a bit from Author [Void of Mist] -:- Rated [Adult+]

The Wall of Moans (Suikoden I camed First part of a Suikoden sex story feati Author [Streti] -:- Rated [Adult++] -:- C







Set during Suikoden 1, around 3/4ths into the game. 3Plus, Bi, Exhib, Fingering, HJ, M/F, Oral, PWP

Author [Streti] -:- Rated [Adult++] -:- Chapters [2] -:- Published [2015-06-30] -:- Updated [2015-10-23 14:36:14] -:- Edited [2015-10-23] -:- Hits [1685] -:- Reviews [8] -:-

Victory Pose

Zenoa and Ordovic grow close. COMP Author [Rezalda] -:- Rated [Adult+] -:-

End of Days

Regius prepares for his new life. COV Author [Rezalda] -:- Rated [Adult+] -:-

Bandit's Rush

The place is weird and a little creepy, Author [xax] -:- Rated [Adult++] -:- Chi

Diving for pearls

(Suikoden IV) Kika and Lino - a king, a Author [masserect] -:- Rated [Adult+] -

In from the rain

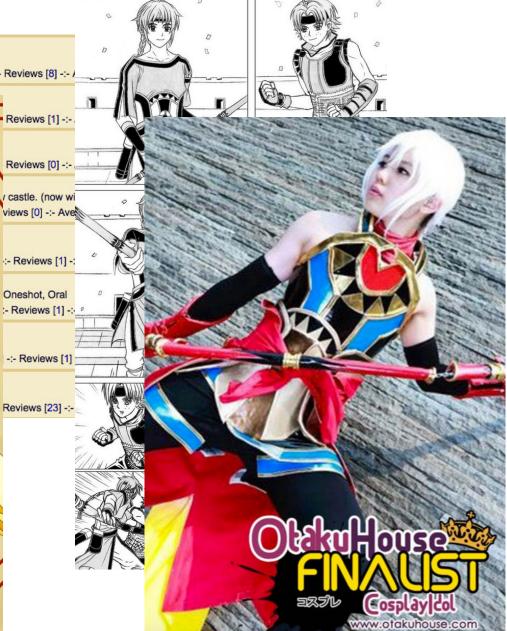
Sappy "what if" fluff. Several years aft Author [masserect] -:- Rated [Adult+] -

Steamy Memory

As the Blue Lightning relaxes a bit from Author [Void of Mist] -:- Rated [Adult+]

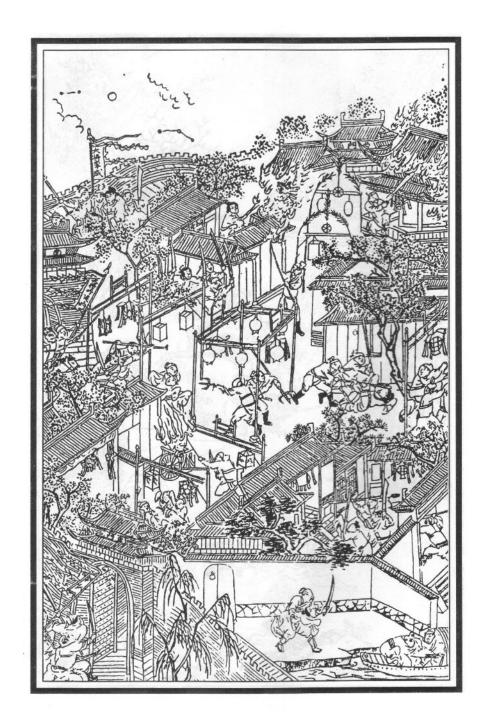
The Wall of Moans (Suikoden I camec First part of a Suikoden sex story feati Author [Streti] -:- Rated [Adult++] -:- C





Shuihuzhuan Outlaws of the marsh (Chapter 65)

- Early 16th century novel
- Based on 12th century history
- Corrupt imperial regime
- 108 Righteous Outlaws
- The marsh of Shandong Province





Suikoden II Map of the "Highlands Kingdom"

Tensyo Star: Valeria (Suikoden II)







Tensyo Star: Wu Song

Left: Chen Hongshou, *Shuihu yezi* Below: *Shuihu Pinglin*



I. DATABASE





Suikoden II: A Battle Party of Six



SID



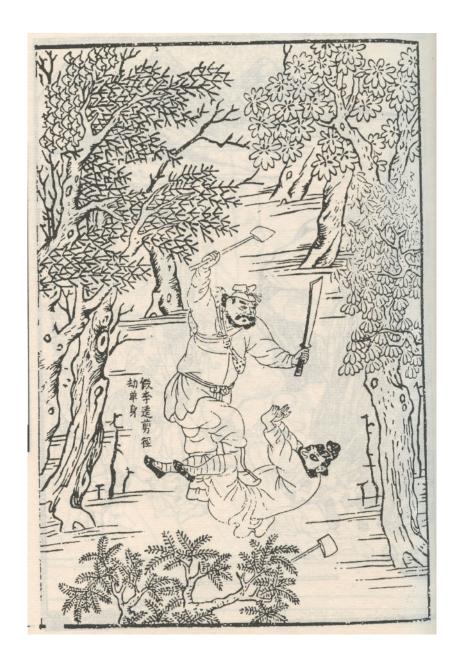
In a short while, the fellow was led up the stairs. Song Jiang looked at him and was taken aback in shock. What did that fellow look like? Behold:

A rough and muscled body resembling a black bear, Irascible and stubborn just like an iron ox, Add a pair of reddish eyebrows drawn like a line, And two bloodshot, bulging eyes, His hair angrily sticks out like iron bristles, Ferocious and feral like a mythical lion, A demon presence has descended from the clouds.

Shuihu zhuan, Chapter 37, "The Black Whirlwind Battles White Stripe in the Waves"

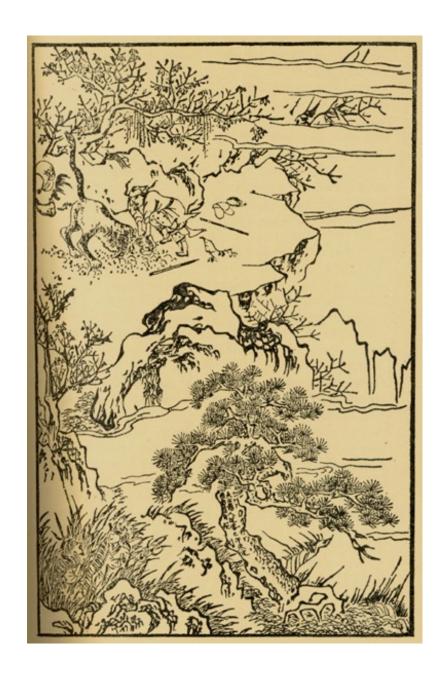


Black Whirlwind Card, *Romance of* the Three Kingdoms XII, Expansion Set (Koei, 2012)



Iron Ox looked at him. His hair was tied in a red silk bandanna and he wore a robe of rough cloth. He carried a pair of axes and he had blackened his face. Iron Ox shouted back: "Who the fuck are you? And what makes you think you can rob highways here?" the other said, "Want to know my name do you? Well, it'll frighten you out of your wits! I am the Black Whirlwind Li Kui, that's who I am!"

Shuihuzhuan, Chapter 42. The False Li Kui robs travelers on the highway 假李逵剪徑劫單身



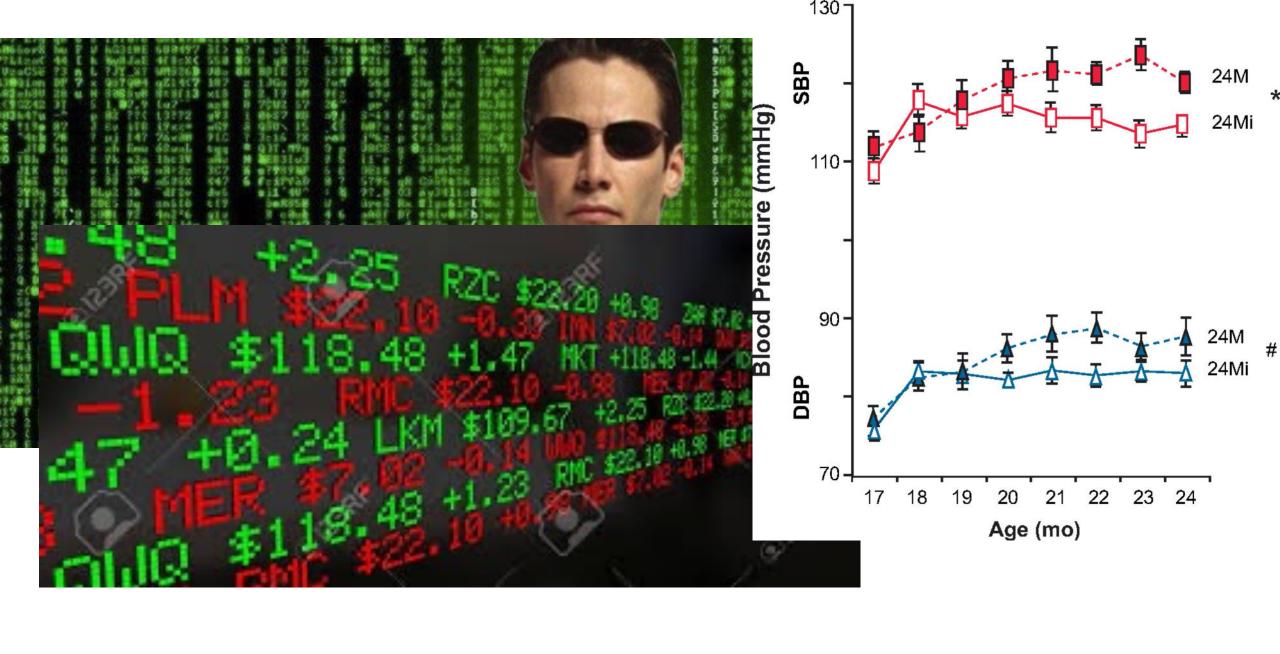
武松見那大蟲復翻身回來,雙手輪 起哨棒,【輪起哨棒,第九個身分。○消 棒十五。】盡平生氣力,只一棒,從 半空劈將下來。【人。○此一劈誰不以 為了卻大蟲矣,卻又變出怪事來。】只聽 得一聲響,簌簌地,將那樹連枝帶 葉劈臉打將下來。定睛看時,一棒 劈不著大蟲,【盡平生氣力矣,卻偏劈 不着大蟲,嚇殺人句。】原來打急了, 正打在枯樹上,【百忙中又注一句。】 把那條哨棒折做兩截,只拿得-**在手裡。**【哨棒十六。〇半日勤寫哨棒, 只道仗他打虎,到此忽然開除,令人瞠目噤 ,不復敢讀下去。○哨棒折了,方顯出徒 手打虎異樣神威來,只是讀者心膽墮矣。】

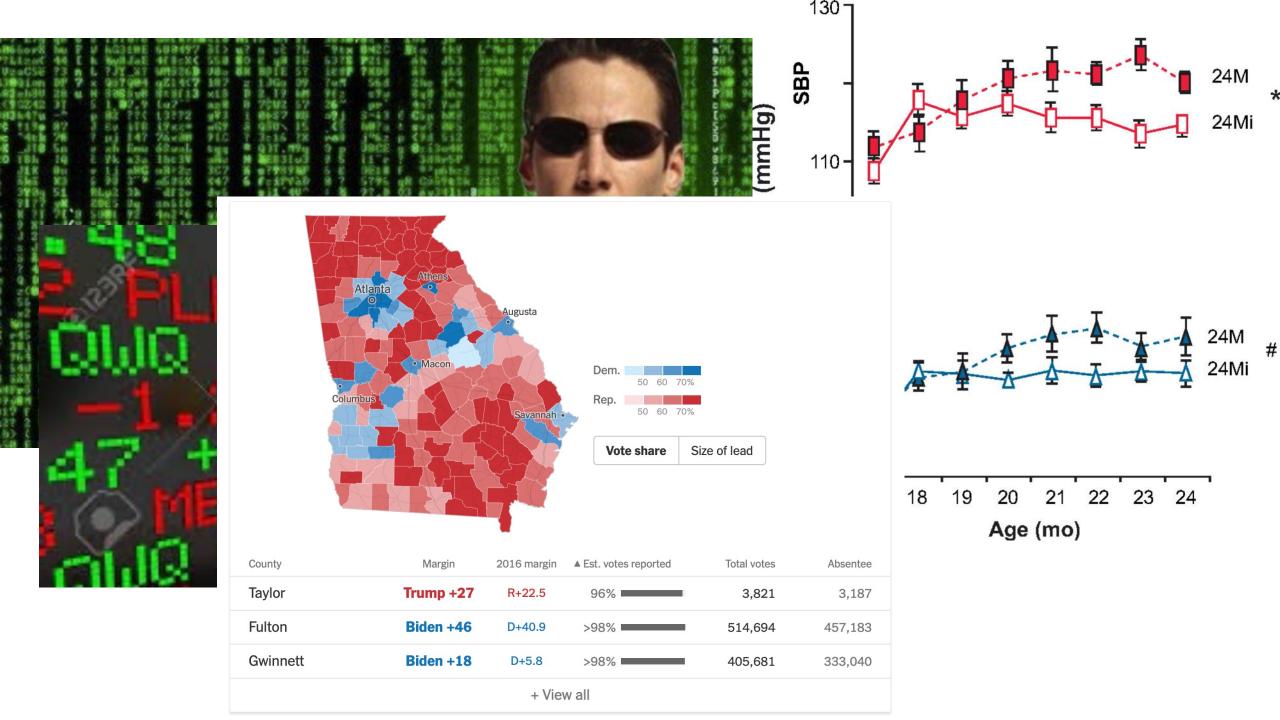
The tiger roared again, and swiftly circled round. [The tiger] Seeing that the tiger had again turned, Wu Song raised his club with both hands [Raised his club-the ninth posture he assumes with the club. Club: the fifteenth time] and with all with all his strength brought it down from midair in one swift blow [The man. After this blow who would not think that the tiger will be done away with.]....There was a crashing sound and leaves and branches scattered down over his face. When he fixed his eyes to see, Wu Song found that he had not hit the tiger, instead in his haste he had hit a withered three. The club broke in two, and he was only holding half of it in his hand. [Club: the sixteenth time]

Jin Shengtan, Commentaries to Chapter 22, Fifth Book of Genius (1641)









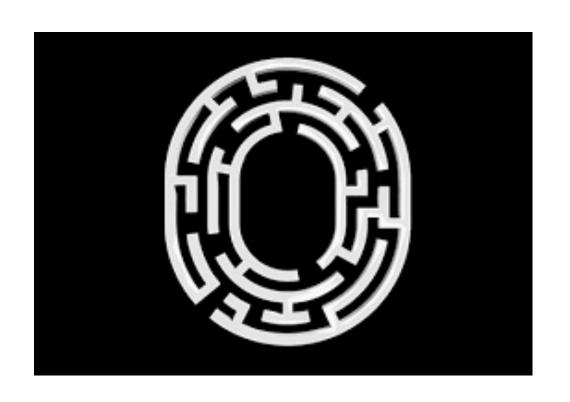
"the pleasures from a simulation game come from inhabiting an unfamiliar, alien mental state: learning to think like a computer."

Ted Friedman, "Civilization and its Discontent: Simulation, Subjective, and Space," p. 135.



Algorithm vs. Logorhythm

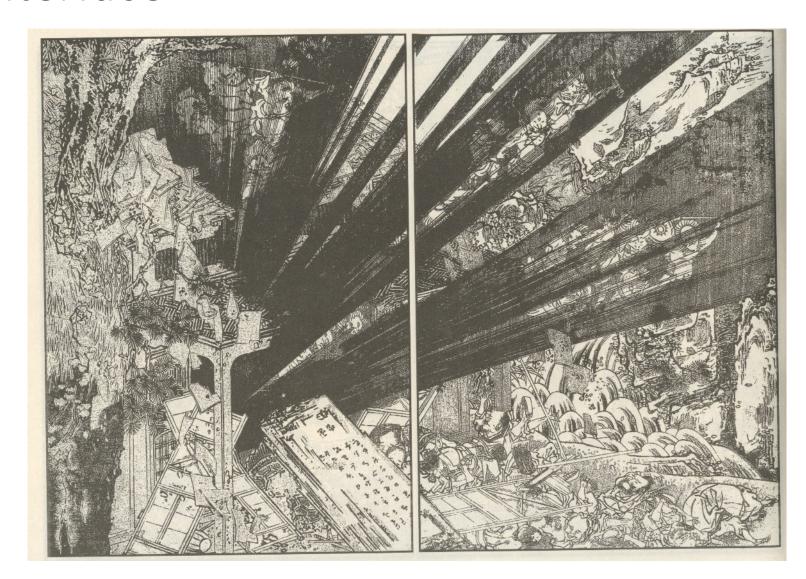
Calculating the Function of Numbers Calculating the Flow of Words





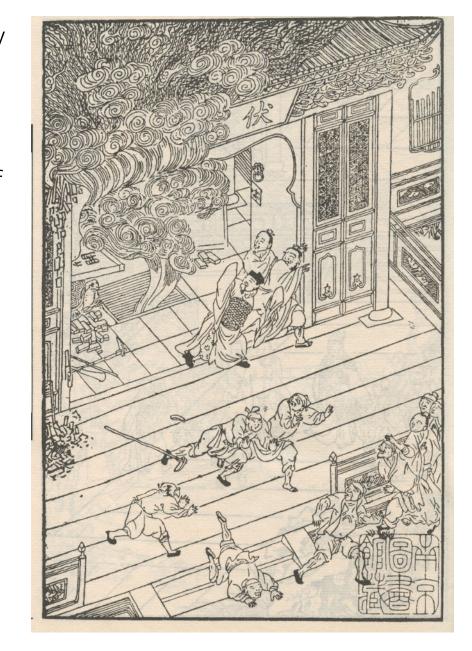
II. The Stone Interface

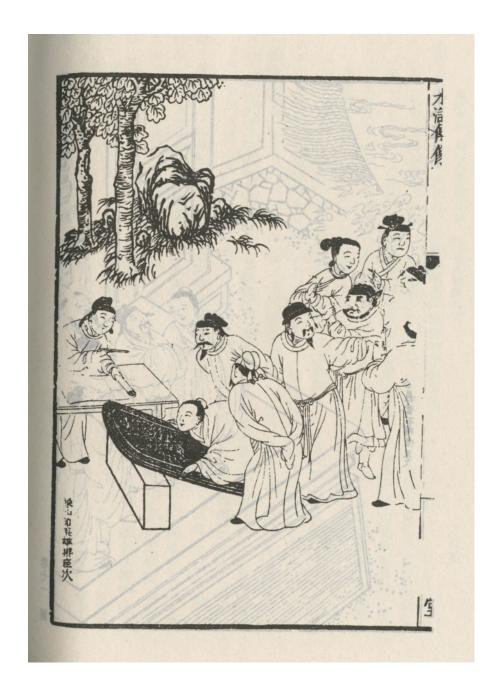
Shinpen Suikogaden 新編水滸畫傳 Katsushika Hokusai 葛飾北斎[1760-1849]



They all poured into the hall. It was so dark they could see nothing. Marshal Hong ordered his people to fetch a dozen torches and illuminate the interior, when it was seen that the hall was entirely empty except for a stone tablet in the center, about six or seven feet high. The base of this tablet rested on a carved tortoise half buried in the ground. When light was shone on it, the front of the tablet turned out to be covered in dragon script and phoenix characters, magic signs and ciphers which no one could understand. On the back of it, however, the found four proper words, engraved in bold characters: "For Hong to open." Now was this not a sign first of all that the conjunction of stars was right for the birth of something? And secondly that the Song dynasty was to see the appearance of men of honor?

The Marshes of Mount Liang, Chapter 1 (Translation by John and Alex Dent-Young)





Taoist Ho said that the thirty-six line of writing on the front were the names of heavely starts and on the back were the seventy-two earth stars. Below each was inscribed the name of one of the heroes. After studying it for quite a while he told Magic Hand to copy down everything from beginning to end. On the front were written the names of the thirty-six stars of the Outlaws of the Marsh:

- 1. Chief Star of the Heavens: The Guardian of Righteousness, Song Jiang
- 2. Righteous Star of the Heavens: The Unicorn Lu Jun yi......

Outlaws of the Marsh, Chapter 71

Suikoden I: The Stone Tablet



Power of the Tablet

Song Jiang said to the others, "I am just a humble official, yet apparently I am also the chief star of the heavens and we all share a common destiny. It has been revealed to us that our coming together here is predestined. Now our number is complete. The powers above have fixed the order of the heavenly bodies in their rank and precedence, and we must all observe the order, without rivalry or dissent from heaven's will."

They all replied, "The order of Heaven and Earth is fixed in Nature. Who would dare question it."

Outlaws of the Marsh, Chapter 71.

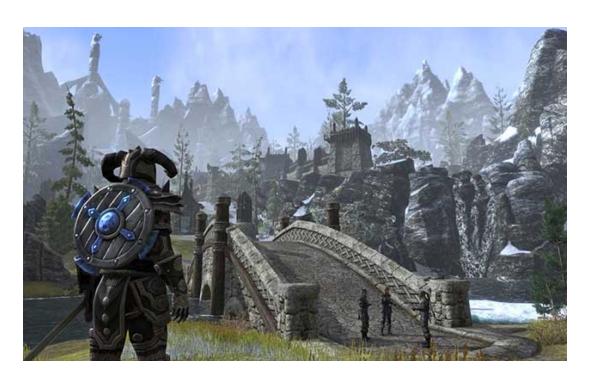
Power of the Tablet

The interface is not only the form and protocol by which communication and action occur between technology and user, but also the obligation to respond to the other. In this way the interface draws together human and machine into a single unified trajectory.. [which] may be described through its availability to control. For this reason, control could be said to be the primary product of the interface.

Brandon Hookway, *Interface*.



Diegesis



VS.

Extradiegesis



III. Iconicity

Chen Hongshou 陳洪綬 (1598-1652), Shuihu Gamecards 水滸葉子



Immersion



[In arcades] I could see in the physical intensity of their postures how *rapt* these kids were. It was like one of those closed systems out of a Pynchon novel: you had the feedback loop, with photons coming off the screen into the kids' eyes, the neurons moving through their bodies, electrons moving through the computer. And these kids clearly *believed* in the space these games projected. Everyone who works with computers seems to develop an intuitive faith that there's some kind of actual space behind the screen.

William Gibson, (Quoted from Martti Lahti, "As We Become Machines: Corporealized Pleasures in Video Games," in *The Video Game Theory Reader*).

Enchantment and Disenchantment

EDITED BY MARIE-LAURE RYAN AND IAN-NOEL THON

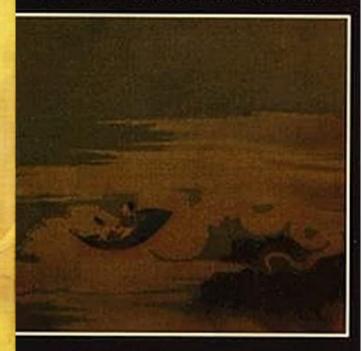
Storyworlds across Media

Toward a Media-Conscious Narratology

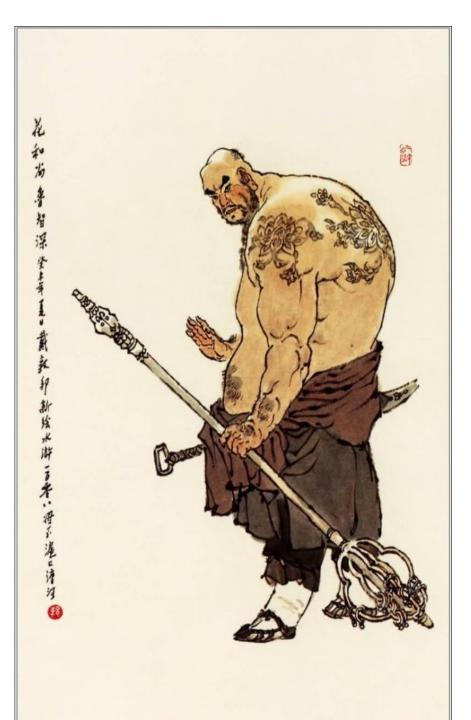


Historian of the Strange

Pu Songling and the Chinese Classical Tale



Judith T. Zeitlin



Once, in my youth, I collected all of my breakfast money for a month to buy a set of cigarette cards of the 108 generals (the pictures printed roughly as big as a match box). I loved them so much that I simply could not let them out of my hands for even a second. Even though I had heard of some of these heroes, there were others whose name and moniker I did not know. Still I worshipped them. And just as I was drunk with this enraptured appreciation, my father and mother heard that I was not doing well in studies, that I was buying cigarette cards to gamble, and, in a fury, they confiscated all of my 108 generals. Before my very eyes, I saw them torch these cards, and I was left humiliated, full of sorrow and with pain in my heart... This was my childhood years' first calamity. Who could have known that a few decades later our beloved fatherland would suffer a similar calamity...

Dai Dunbang 戴敦邦 (1938-)



"Once, in my youth, I collected all of my breakfast money for a month to buy a set of cigarette cards of the 108 generals (the pictures printed roughly as big as a match box). I loved them so much that I simply could not let them out of my hands for even a second. Even though I had heard of some of these heroes, there were others whose name and moniker I did not know. Still I worshipped them. And just as I was drunk with this enraptured appreciation, my father and mother heard that I was not doing well in studies, that I was buying cigarette cards to gamble, and, in a fury, they confiscated all of my 108 generals. Before my very eyes, I saw them torch these cards, and I was left humiliated, full of sorrow and with pain in my heart... This was my childhood years' first calamity. Who could have known that a few decades later our beloved fatherland would suffer a similar calamity...

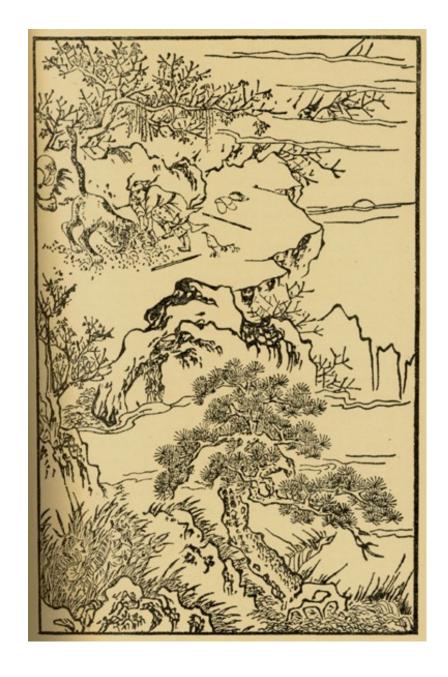
Dai Dunbang 戴敦邦(1938-)

Shuihuzhuan, Chapter 23

(Pinglin edition, 1594)

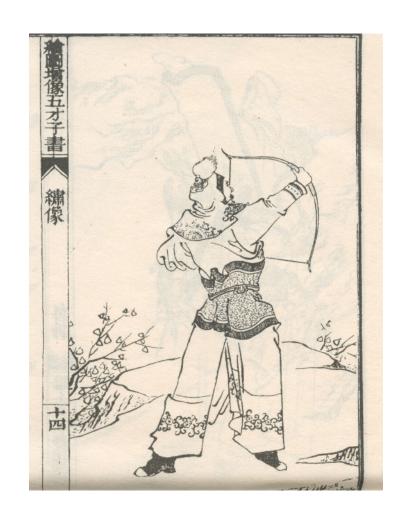


Shuihuzhuan Chapter 23, (Yuan Wuyai edition, 1614)



Shuihuzhuan, Wu Song,

([Di]wu caizi shu lithograph edition, late 19th century)





Chen Hongshou 陳洪綬 (1598-1652) , Shuihu Gamecards 水滸葉子 Madiao playing cards (featuring characters from Shuihu; American Museum of Natural History)



松 秦 李 李 朱 大 化 燕 江 仝 明 俊 逵 进 刀 榮 青 "Flowers and Seasons" depicting Wu Song from a 1920s *Mahjong* Set

(Ann Israel, *Mahjong, Art of the Game*)



A Literati Tradition of Iconic Appreciation

Gong Kai 龔開 (1222-ca. 1302). *Encomia for the Thirty-Six Men of Song Jiang* 松江三十六人讚

Zhang Dai 張岱 (1597-1864). Encomia of Outlaw Heroes 水滸人物讚.

Zhang Henshui 張恨水 (1895-1967). Discussion and Appreciation of Outlaw Characters 水滸傳人物論贊.

Ma Youyuan馬幼垣 (1940-. *The Outlaws Most...* 水滸人物之最。。。

IV.

CONCLUSION

Song Jiang was now able by the light of the lamps to get a better look at his new friend:

His stature is awesome, his bearing deeply impressive; the eyes

blaze like winter stars, the brows are an unbroken line drawn in lacquer; the chest so broad ten thousand foes could never throw him down, the speech forceful, evidence of a soaring ambition; the spirit so brave you'd think the lion which shakes heaven had descended from the clouds, the frame so powerful you'd imagine you were confronting the beast which shatters the world. Truly this seems a god walking the earth, a veritable Mars among men.

Song Jiang liked what he saw exceedingly...

Outlaws of the Marsh, Chapter 21