

4M15 Novel2Note Chinese IV Module 15

Lesson 119

红高粱—莫言

Red Sorghum

有人说这个放羊的孩子就是我，我不知道是不是我，我曾经对高密东北乡极端热爱，曾经对高密东北乡极端仇恨，长大后努力学习马克思主义，我终于悟道高密东北乡无疑是地球上最美丽最丑陋，最超脱最世俗，最圣洁最龌龊，最英雄好汉最王八蛋，最能喝酒最能爱的地方，生存在这块土地上的父老乡亲们，喜欢吃高粱。每年都大量种植，

Yǒurén shuō zhège fàngyáng de háizi jiùshì wǒ, wǒ bù zhīdào shì bùshì wǒ, wǒ céngjīng duì gāomì dōngběi xiāng jíduān rè'ài, céngjīng duì gāomì dōngběi xiāng jíduān chóuhèn, zhǎng dà hòu nǚlì xuéxí mǎkèsī zhǔyì, wǒ zhōngyú wùdào gāomì dōngběi xiāng wúyí shì dìqiú shàng zuì měilì zuì chǒulòu, zuì chāotuō zuì shìsú, zuì shèngjié zuì wòchuò, zuì yīngxióng hǎohàn zuì wángbā dàn, zuì néng hējiǔ zuì néng ài dì dìfāng, shēngcún zài zhè kuài tǔdì shàng de fùlǎo xiàng xiāngqīnmen, xǐhuān chī gāoliang. Měinián dū dàliàng zhòngzhí,

English translation

Someone said that the little goatherd was me, but I don't know.

I had learned to love Northeast Gaomi Town with all my heart, and hate it with unbridled fury.

I did not realize until I'd grown up and learned Marxism, that Northeast Gaomi Town is easily the most beautiful and most repulsive, most unusual and most common, most sacred and most corrupt, most heroic and most bastardly, hardest-drinking and hardest-loving place in the world.

The people of my father's generation who live there ate sorghum out of preference, planting as much of it as they could.

Vocabulary

Chinese Character	Pinyin	English Translation
放羊	fàng yáng	herding goat/sheep
极端	jí duān	extremely
热爱	Rè ài	love
仇恨	Chou hèn	hate
马克思主义	mǎ kè sī zhǔ yì	Marxism
丑陋	chou lòu	ugly, repulsive
超脱	chāo tuō	unusual, unworldliness
世俗	shì sú	common, ordinary
龌龊	wò chuò	dirty
英雄	yīng xióng	hero
喝酒	hē jiǔ	drinking
父老乡亲	fù lǎo xiāng qīn	people of my father's generation
高粱	gāo liáng	sorghum

Lesson 120

红高粱二莫言

八月深秋，无边无际的高粱红成血海。高粱高密辉煌，高粱凄婉可人，高粱爱情激荡。秋风苍凉，阳光很旺，瓦蓝的天上游荡着一朵朵丰满的白云，高粱上滑动着一朵朵丰满白云的紫红色影子。一队队暗红色的人在高粱棵子里穿梭，几十年如一日。他们精忠报国，他们演出过一幕幕英勇悲壮的舞剧，使我们这些活着的不肖子孙相形见绌，在进步的同时，我真切感到种的退化。

Bā yuè shēnqiū, wúbiān wújì de gāoliang hóng chéng xuè hǎi. Gāoliang gāomì huīhuáng, gāoliang qīwǎn kě rén, gāoliang àiqíng jīdàng. Qiūfēng cāngliáng, yángguāng hěn wàng, wǎlán de tiānshàng yóudàngzhe yī duǒ duǒ fēngmǎn de bái yún, gāoliang shàng huádòngzhe yī duǒ duǒ fēngmǎn bái yún de zǐ hóngsè yǐngzi. Yī duì duì àn hóngsè de rén zài gāoliang kēzi lǐ chuānsuō, jǐ shí nián rúyī rì. Tāmen jīngzhōng bàoguó, tāmen yǎnchūguò yīmù mù yīngyǒng bēizhuàng de wǔjù, shǐ wǒmen zhèxiē huózhe de bùxiào zǐsūn xiāngxíngjiànchù, zài jìnbù de tóngshí, wǒ zhēnqiè gǎndào zhǒng de tuìhuà.

English translation

In late autumn during the 8th lunar month, vast stretches of red sorghum shimmered like a sea of blood.

Tall and dense, it reeked of glory; cold and graceful, it promised enchantment; passionate and loving, it was tumultuous.

The autumn winds are cold and bleak, the sun's rays intense.

White clouds, full and round, float in the tile-blue sky, casting full round purple shadows onto the sorghum fields below.

Over decades that seem but a moment in time, lines of scarlet figures shuttled among the sorghum stalks to weave a vast human tapestry.

They killed, they looted and they defended their country in a valiant, stirring ballet that makes us unofficial descendants who now occupy the land pale by comparison.

Vocabulary

深秋	shēn qiū	late autumn
无边无际	wú biān wú jì	boundless, endless
辉煌	huī huáng	glorious
凄婉可人	qī wǎn kě rén	sad and mild
激荡	jī dàng	passionate
苍凉	cāng liáng	cold and bleak
游荡	yóu dàng	float
丰满	fēng mǎn	full and round
精忠报国	jīng zhōng bào guó	idiom: repay the country with supreme loyalty -- patriotism
悲壮	bēi zhuàng	solemn and stirring
舞剧	wǔ jù	ballet
不肖子孙	bú xiào zǐ sūn	unworthy descendants
相形见绌	xiāng xíng jiàn chù	idiom: pale by comparison
进步	jìn bù	progress, improve
退化	tuì huà	become vestigial

Culture Reflection for Novel 2 小说 2



Please watch the video located in the sidebar on <https://youtu.be/zh55pwzBNag> 巩俐, 姜文经典老电影《红高粱》1987年。

Please submit your feedback (120-150 words) after you watched the video. How do you like this movie? What is the difference between the movie and the novel?

You will need to type your reflection in word processing document and save the file on your hard drive or a disk. Please state the URL for your video on the reflection. Then, submit your assignment.

Listening/Speaking Project



In this section, you will finish two audio projects. When you are speaking, you need to record your voice and then submit it per your teacher's instructions so that the teacher could evaluate your performance.

Project 1

Listen to the recording, and fill in the blanks.

高密东北乡无疑是 _____ ① 上最 _____ ② 最 _____ ③ 、最 _____ ④ 最 _____ ⑤ 、最圣洁最 _____ ⑥ 、最 _____ ⑦ 好汉最 _____ ⑧ 、最能 _____ ⑨ 最能 _____ ⑩ 的地方。

Project 2

Please write down the words based on what you have heard.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____