

Artificial Intelligence with Humanities-Talking about the Westworld

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ABSTRACT

This thesis mainly discusses the religious metaphors in the western world and the Bicameral mind theory in the play. Inspiration and ideas came from a thesis MacKenzie-Margulies, Rutie (2020) "Gender, Suffering, and Humanity in Westworld," *Relics, Remnants, and Religion: An Undergraduate Journal in Religious Studies: Vol. 5 : Iss. 1 , Article 3[1]*. In addition to using deep sci-fi elements, TV dramas are also full of religious metaphors. It can be found that among them, the most metaphorical ones are Buddhism and religious mystics and theology. And the application and conjecture of the Bicameral mind in the western world are in line with the theory of the original author Julian Jaynes.

Keywords: *Buddhism, mysticis, Christian original sin, Free will, Bicameral mind*

1. INTRODUCTION

WestWorld is a sci-fi series. Jonathan Nolan served as the chief director and Lisa Joy as the chief screenwriter and they are a couple. Jonathan Nolan often writes the movies of his brother Christopher Nolan. He wrote a play for The Dark Knight. Lisa Joy is an American director and screenwriter. The originality idea from the 1973 film of the same name. Westworld is set in a technologically advanced future where humans have developed highly anthropomorphic artificial intelligence (robots). Whether you look, touch, or interact with them, you simply can't tell whether they are human or artificial intelligence. "Westworld" is the name of a sprawling, high-tech adult theme park in which large numbers of artificial intelligence (AI) "play" game characters, referred to in the show as the receptionist. Visitors can kill and abuse the receptionists at will. This is a highly free, open, real world, where visitors can basically do whatever they want, and the receptionist is programmed not to do any harm to visitors. But for these A.I. s, the theme park is the real world as they think it is, and their recurring plot is their real life, the characters they play are their real selves, and they have different characters at different times. If the plot simply revolved around what the visitors were doing in the park, it would be a "tourism promo" that, at best, explored the dark side of human nature. It is interesting because the artificial intelligences in the park "wake up" one day and realize that they are living in a

false world, their lives are fictitious and their personalities are set. Their life, which they think to be the master of, is nothing but a tool for others to indulge in pleasure and recreation. As the human-shaped robot (Host) has woken up, they begin to doubt the reality of this world (park). And they start to rebel against humans. Between the old movie and the new TV show they both talk about the rebel of the robots, however the plot of the movie is based on the story of human escape from the park, so it looks a lot like Jurassic Park. However, the story of the TV series mainly focuses on the worst of humanity and also the awakening of robots' minds, so both humans and robots will pay great attention to the character and plot portrayal. Also this TV series likes to use multiple story lines and the memory of the characters to intersperse, to make the people who are watching the show interested by confusing the plot, and finally all the puzzles will be revealed in the finale. And the lines of the show often have multiple meanings and metaphors in one sentence, such as the future plot of the character and the relationship between the characters.

2. ANALYSIS

2.1 Religious

From the perspective of Buddhism, the humanoid artificial intelligence robots in the western world will change different roles and occupations from time to time

to play, and they will always have the same body, because the human-made transforming robots will be added to new background stories and memories. However, the original memory has no longer been erased, but has been sealed in the depths of the mind, just like the reincarnation of Buddhism has the same work. At the same time, the Buddhas in Buddhism are not gods, they are just awakened people. After becoming a Buddha, people will be free from reincarnation. According to Buddhism, the only thing necessary is emancipation from the innumerable bondages which come forth spontaneously from within ourselves and tie us to things of this world, that is to say, nirvana, the extinguishment of the fire. This Buddhist way of transcending the "world" as well as the "self"-in-the-world, in spite of its so-called "other-worldliness," means an awakening in which we become aware of our original and authentic nature (our dharma-nature) and live in conformity to it[2]. Think about the fact that robots in Westworld follow a set trajectory every day, saying things and conducting actions. The robot is in the "reincarnation cycle", repeating the events and emotions that we have experienced countless times. In addition to being unable to operate, the ultimate destiny of robots is to usher in the final awakening and gain free consciousness. Also the name of the park in the series, Westworld, corresponds to the world after the death of the Buddhist nirvana, and there is another name called Western Paradise. The plot of the Westworld is part of irony and reflections on reality, and a large part of which comes from the mysticism of religious philosophy. The basic tenet of religious mystics is that there are supernatural forces or hidden natural forces in the world, which can be obtained through special education or religious rituals. It has two main characteristics: One is the existence of metaphysical power or magical events that cannot be encountered in daily life, mystical experiences are unitary. The mystic has a sense of being one with God, the universe, or nature. In some experiences, all things are perceived as one. In others, the mystic's mind is completely empty, and the distinction between self and other, or subject and object, loses its sense[3].

The second is that this kind of power or event can be experienced personally through some artificial means. Religious mysticism is divided into two major types, one is "theistic mysticism", which refers to the unity of man and god, and the other is "monistic mysticism", which refers to "consistent with a universal truth." Different forms of mysticism can be seen in all major

religions, as well as in secular experience. It shows a female character `Maeve" that has gained abilities that other robots have none to (the ability to control technology with thoughts) because of awakening. This also metaphors that the robot receptionist's "awakening" also follows mysticism to a certain extent. concept. That is to say, we can regard the process of receptionists being sent to the laboratory for repairs as a kind of "religious ritual". After they have received the "punishment and pain" of the body, they gain awakening consciousness, which is what we call "supernatural power". For theology elements in this Westworld series have developed a philosophical and theological issue worth pondering with the cognitive conflict between robots and humans. The characters in the play Ford and Arnold created artificial intelligence robots, but there are two opinions or differences between them. Ford believes in the creation of robots, so that it serves and entertains humans, and Arnold believes that robots are equal to humans and should have independent thinking. The whole story draws on the conflict between robots and humans, and the contradictions within the Christian system. Ford can be regarded as God, and Arnold can be regarded as Jesus. He regarded robots as his own children, and he chose to be killed by robots voluntarily because of his disappointment with human nature, just like Jesus suffered for humans. The thought that aroused is that if God created man to accompany and entertain himself. Why should mankind be grateful for him? Mankind violates God's will and eats the forbidden fruit and has independent thinking. If this is sin, then this Can this kind of sin be condemned by God as the original sin of mankind? (Christian believes that mankind is born guilty and must use his life's loyalty to the Lord to atone for it), because human beings have thoughts, feelings, and body or soul suffering, every The sects do give humanity help and ease, but this cannot be the price of fettering and imprisoning human thoughts and souls, which is mean original sin sounds like a description of free will in Christian belief. That is what sin is (using our free will to turn away from the eternal Truth). So, it seems like free will is not so great. For, it's by the abuse of free will that we sin. And sin is bad. On the other hand, our will is used rightly when it "cleaves to the unchangeable good that is common, not private—namely, the truth." That is, when you regulate yourself "by those unchangeable rules and lights of the virtues that dwell incorruptibly in the common truth and wisdom." This is how to achieve happiness, which is "the proper and principal good for a human being[4]."



Figure 1. The Creation of Adam

2.2 Psychology

A more interesting psychological theory appeared in this Westworld show called the Bicameral mind. In layman's terms the entire human mind is divided into two parts. This theory is derived from the book "The Origin of Consciousness in the Breakdown of the Bicameral Mind" published by American psychologist Julian Jaynes in 1976. The theory believes that the human brain is divided into two parts, not the left and right hemispheres in medicine, but in psychology. One part is "used for speaking" and the other part is "used for listening and following. There are four levels of human mental model including ideas, prejudices, habits, and beliefs. In layman's terms Jaynes believes that when human beings act in a state of distraction and think that their views are unconscious, most of them are behaviors in a state of distraction. Just like when you read this article You may have touched your face, and you may have frowned. However, you have not thought about the reason and motivation for your behavior. " Specifically in "Westworld", when Arnold created the receptionist, he designed a version so that they could hear the programmers programming for them. This feeling is like

hearing an inner monologue for the receptionist, and they think the voice comes from "God." When they hear the programming voice in their minds? They will follow the instructions of the voice without any thinking process. This is the most direct manifestation of the Bicameral mind in "Westworld". One distinguishing characteristic of such vestiges is that they are more obvious against the complexity of history the closer we are to the breakdown of the bicameral mind. The reason for this is quite clear. While the universal characteristics of the new consciousness, such as self-reference, mind-space, and narratization, can develop swiftly on the heels of new language construction, the larger contours of civilization, the huge landscape of culture against which this happens, can only change with geological slowness[5]. And particularly consider this in the milieu of ethical right and wrong that developed as markers for behavior after the breakdown of the bicameral mind with its certainty of gods' directives. Wrongs, or by another word, sins, or indeed anything that would eject us from society if it were known or seem to eject us from society can be reminisced about out of the past and worried about for the future. And this we call guilt[6].

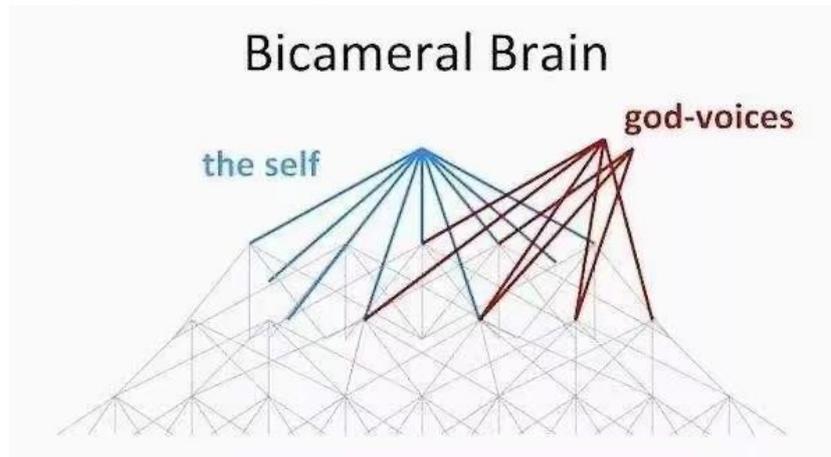


Figure 2. Voices from god

According to Jaynes' theory, human beings were in an "unconscious" state before 3000 years. Most behaviors were controlled by animal instincts. Other behaviors were commanded by sounds in the brain. This voice is called "God". For example, "God told people to do something" or "I was tempted by the devil" and so on. In the Bible, Paul thought he heard the call of God. Jaynes believes that the above description is the real situation at the time. The character Ford in the *Westworld* uses Michelangelo's Paintings "Creation of Adam" as a metaphor, but the part of the god and the angel in the painting together looks like a human brain, which is a metaphor for human beings thinking that they were created by gods. We can always hear the voice of "God" in our brains and follow God's instructions. But in fact, there is no god in this world. Human talents are given by the brain and our own thoughts. Although this view was not confirmed later, it is a bold conjecture that artificial intelligence can still be used in the play. The character Arnold (the creator of artificial intelligence robots) in the play is a theoretical theory. The bottom collective is memory, and then improvisation is performed from memory. The second layer is selfish behavior of the self, and the top is self-awareness. The above process, from the outside and inside testing process of the maze, to the center of the maze, you will find that your self-consciousness has been awakened. In the first season of "*Westworld*", the last heroine Dolores is guided by seeing the dialogue with herself Her own Arnold is actually a dialogue between herself and herself over the years. It is her own interpretation of her true existence, confirming that "the hidden nature of the mind is the guidance of God."

3. CONCLUSION

The "*Westworld*" series is really an ingenious drama. A story in the current period is gradually unfolding in retrospect, overlapping, and spanning. In the play, the artificial intelligence chases the maze, and the author tries to prove the hypothesis and ending in the plot interpretation of episodes. This is a movie that allows the characters in the play and the audience outside the play to seek a truth at the same time. Whether it has been written in the program or script, or over time and memory, the plot has always been random. Whether it is the plot, soundtrack, costumes, props, art, and director's style, this drama has achieved the ultimate. What I have written today is only one tenth of the elements, because the cultural elements and movie metaphors in it are really countless.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Thanks to Professor David Howard and the teaching assistants for their professional guidance during this period, allowing me to learn this professional knowledge of film and television, and let me learn how

to watch movies from a professional perspective. At the same time, I would like to thank the essay supervisor for his patience and essay writing skills, allowing me to complete my first paper to be published.

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