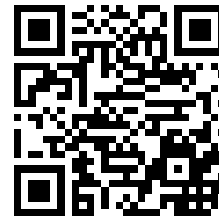


《鱿鱼游戏》如何成为韩国文化输出的顶流产品

- ▶ 你知道《鱿鱼游戏》这部韩国神剧在全世界到底有多火吗？
- ▶ 作为“大逃杀”主题的电视剧，主创人员如何将韩国元素融入其中？
- ▶ 为什么如此多的韩国观众会对这部超现实的电视剧如此感同身受？
- ▶ “糯糖”如何成为了现在最新的全球网红食品？
- ▶ 被财阀集团把持的韩国，为什么只是“名义上的富国”？
- ▶ 为什么“韩流”能够在政府与民间的合力下实现韩国的文化输出以及软实力提升？
- ▶ 你知道李沧东的《燃烧》与村上春树和福克纳有什么渊源吗？
- ▶ “pit sb. against”这个短语是什么意思？



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听课笔记

Behind the Global Appeal of 'Squid Game,' a Country's Economic Unease

The dystopian Netflix hit taps South Korea's worries about costly housing and scarce jobs, concerns familiar to its U.S. and international viewers.

By Jin Yu Young, *The New York Times*, Published Oct. 6, 2021

In "Squid Game," the hit **dystopian** television show on Netflix, 456 people facing severe debt and financial despair play a series of deadly children's games to win a \$38 million cash prize in South Korea. Koo Yong-hyun, a 35-year-old office worker in Seoul, has never had to **face down** masked **homicidal** guards or competitors out to **slit** his throat, like the characters in the show do. But Mr. Koo, who **binge-watched** "Squid Game" in a single night, said he empathized with the characters and their struggle to survive in the country's deeply unequal society.

Mr. Koo, who **got by** on **freelance gigs** and government unemployment checks after he lost his steady job, said it is "almost impossible to live comfortably with a regular employee's salary" in a city with **runaway** housing prices. Like many young people in South Korea and elsewhere, Mr. Koo sees a growing competition to grab a slice of a shrinking pie, just like the **contestants** in "Squid Game."

Those similarities have helped turn the nine-**episode** drama into an unlikely international **sensation**. "Squid Game" is now the top-ranked show in the United States on Netflix and is on its way to becoming one of the most-watched shows in the **streaming** service's history. "There's a very good chance it will be our biggest show ever," Ted Sarandos, a co-chief executive at Netflix, said during a recent business conference.

Culturally, the show has sparked an online embrace of its distinct **visuals**, especially the black masks decorated with simple squares and **triangles** worn by the **anonymous** guards, and a global curiosity for the Korean children's games that **underpin** the deadly competitions. Recipes for **dalgona**, the sugary Korean **treat** at the center of one especially tense **showdown**, have gone viral.

Like the "Hunger Games" books and movies, "Squid Game" holds its audience with its violent tone, cynical plot and — spoiler alert! — a willingness to **kill off** fan-favorite characters. But it has also **tapped** a sense familiar to people in the United States, Western Europe and other places, that prosperity in **nominally** rich countries has become increasingly difficult to achieve, as wealth disparities widen and home prices rise past affordable levels.

"Squid Game" is only the latest South Korean cultural export to win a global audience by tapping into the country's deep feelings of inequality and ebbing opportunities. "**Parasite**," the 2019 film that won best picture at the Oscars, paired a desperate family of **grifters** with the **oblivious** members of a rich Seoul household. "Burning," a 2018 **art-house** hit, built tension by **pitting** a young deliveryman **against** a well-to-do rival for a woman's attention.

"Squid Game" **revolves around** Seong Gi-hun, a gambling addict in his 40s who doesn't have the means to buy his daughter a proper birthday present or pay for his aging mother's medical expenses. One day he is offered a chance to participate in the Squid Game, a private event run for the entertainment of wealthy individuals. To claim the \$38 million prize, contestants must pass through six rounds of traditional Korean children's games. Failure means death.

The characters have **resonated** with South Korean youth who don't see a chance to advance in society. Known locally as the "dirt spoon" generation, many are obsessed with ways to get rich quickly, like with **cryptocurrencies** and the **lottery**. South Korea has one of the largest markets for virtual currency in the world.

Like the prize money in the show, cryptocurrencies give "people the chance to change their lives in a second," said Mr. Koo, the office worker. Mr. Koo, whose previous employer went out of business during the pandemic, said the difficulty of earning money is one reason South Koreans are so obsessed with **making a quick buck**.

词汇

squid /skwɪd/ n. 枪乌贼, 鱿鱼

- a sea creature with a long soft body and ten arms around its mouth

dystopia /dɪs'təʊpiə/ n. 反乌托邦, 反面假想国, 敌托帮 (极度恶劣的假想处境或状况)

- an imaginary place or state in which everything is extremely bad or unpleasant
- **dystopian** /dɪs'təʊpiən/ adj. 反面乌托邦的

face sb. ↔ down (威风凛凛地) 把某人压制下去, 勇敢地挫败 (某人)

- to oppose or beat sb. by dealing with them directly and confidently

homicidal /,hɒmɪ'saɪdl/ adj. (使) 可能会杀人的; 嗜杀 (成性) 的

- likely to kill another person; making sb. likely to kill another person
- e.g. a homicidal maniac 杀人狂

slit /slɪt/ v. 切开, 裁开, 撕开

- to make a straight narrow cut in cloth, paper, skin, etc.
- e.g. Guy slit open the envelope. 盖伊拆开信封。

binge /bɪndʒ/ n. (短时间的) 狂热活动, 寻欢作乐, 大吃大喝

- (*informal*) a short period of time when sb. does too much of a particular activity, especially eating or drinking alcohol
- e.g. One of the symptoms is binge eating. 症状之一是饮食无度。
- **binge-watch** v. 刷剧

get by (on/in/with sth.) (靠 ...) 维持生计, 设法过活, 勉强应付

- to manage to live or do a particular thing using the money, knowledge, equipment, etc. that you have
- e.g. How does she get by on such a small salary? 她靠这点微薄的工资怎么过活?

freelance /'fri:lɑ:ns/ adj. 特约的, 自由职业 (者) 的

- earning money by selling your work or services to several different organizations rather than being employed by one particular organization
- e.g. a freelance journalist 自由新闻工作者

gig /gɪg/ n. (尤指临时的) 工作

- a job, especially a temporary one
- e.g. a gig as a basketball coach 临时篮球教练

runaway /'rʌnəweɪ/ adj. 轻易的, 迅速的, 难以控制的, 物价飞涨的

- happening very easily or quickly, and not able to be controlled
- e.g. runaway inflation 来势迅猛的通货膨胀

contestant /kən'testənt/ n. 竞争者, 选手, 参加竞赛者

- someone who competes in a contest

episode /'epəsəʊd/ n. (电视连续剧或广播连载节目中的一集)

- a television or radio programme that is one of a series of programmes in which the same story is continued each week
- e.g. Watch next week's thrilling episode! 请收看下周精彩的一集!

sensation /sen'seɪʃən/ n. 轰动, 哗然, 引起轰动的人 (或事物)

- very great surprise, excitement, or interest among a lot of people; the person or the thing that causes this surprise
- e.g. News of his arrest caused a sensation. 他被捕的消息引起了轰动。

streaming /'stri:mɪŋ/ n. (经计算机网络对视频等的) 流式传输, 串流播放

- a method of sending or receiving data, especially video, over a computer network

visual /'vɪʒuəl/ n. 视觉资料 (指说明性的图片、影片等)

- a picture, map, piece of film, etc. used to make an article or a talk easier to understand or more interesting
- e.g. He used striking visuals to get his point across. 他用醒目的视觉资料解释他的观点。

triangle /'traɪæŋɡl/ n. 三角形, 三角形物体

- a flat shape with three straight sides and three angles
- e.g. Cut the sandwiches into triangles. 把三明治切成三角形。

anonymous /ə'nɒnɪməs/ adj. 匿名的, 不具名的

- written, given, made, etc. by sb. who does not want their name to be known or made public
- e.g. an anonymous letter 匿名信

underpin /ˌʌndəˈpɪn/ v. 加强, 巩固, 构成 (... 的基础等)

- to give strength or support to something and to help it succeed
- e.g. the theories that underpin his teaching method 支持他的教学方法的理论

dalgona n. 槿糖, 焦糖

- a Korean candy made with melted sugar and baking soda

treat /tri:t/ n. 乐事, 乐趣, 款待

- something very pleasant and enjoyable, especially sth. that you give sb. or do for them
- e.g. We took the kids to the zoo as a special treat. 我们特地带孩子到动物园去, 让他们开心一下。

showdown /ˈʃəʊdaʊn/ n. 决出胜负的较量, 最后的决战

- an argument, a fight or a test that will settle a disagreement that has lasted for a long time
- e.g. Management is facing a showdown with union members today. 今天资方准备和工会成员摊牌。

kill sb./sth. ↔ **off** 大量杀死, 大量消灭 (动植物等)

- to make a lot of plants, animals, etc. die
- e.g. Some drugs kill off useful bacteria in the user's body. 某些药物会杀死服用者体内的有益细菌。

tap /tæp/ v. 利用, 开发, 发掘 (已有的资源、知识等)

- to make use of a source of energy, knowledge, etc. that already exists
- e.g. We need to tap the expertise of the people we already have. 我们需要利用我们现有人员的专业知识。

nominally /ˈnɒmɪnəli/ adv. 名义上地, 有名无实地

- officially described as being something, when this is not really true
- e.g. a nominally Christian country 名义上信奉基督教的国家

parasite /ˈpærəsait/ n. 寄生植物, 寄生动物, 寄生虫

- a plant or animal that lives on or in another plant or animal and gets food from it

grifter /ˈgrɪftə(r)/ n. (骗取钱财等的) 骗子

- a person who tricks people into giving them money, etc.

oblivious /əˈblɪviəs/ adj. 不知道的, 未觉察到的

- not knowing about or not noticing something that is happening around you
- e.g. He seemed oblivious to the fact that he had hurt her. 他似乎没有察觉自己伤害了她。

art-house /ˈɑ:t haʊs/ adj. (电影) 实验性的, 不公开放映的

- films/movies are usually made by small companies and are not usually seen by a wide audience

pit sb./sth. against sth. 使竞争, 使较量, 使经受考验

- to test sb. or their strength, intelligence, etc. in a struggle or contest against sb./sth. else
- e.g. Lawyers and accountants felt that they were being pitted against each other. 律师和会计师都觉得他们要一争高下。

revolve around 以 ... 为主题 (目的); 围绕

- to have something as a main subject or purpose
- e.g. The argument revolved around costs. 争论的焦点是费用问题。

resonate /ˈrezəneɪt/ v. 产生共鸣, 发出回响, 回荡

- (of a voice, an instrument, etc.) to make a deep, clear sound that continues for a long time

cryptocurrency /ˈkrɪptəʊkəlɪnsi/ n. 加密数字货币

- (= crypto-currency) a medium of exchange using cryptography to secure the transactions and to control the creation of new units

lottery /ˈlɒtəri/ n. (用发行彩票为政府、慈善机构等集资的) 抽彩给奖法

- a game used to make money for a state or a charity in which people buy tickets with a series of numbers on them. If their number is picked by chance, they win money or a prize
- e.g. Do you really think winning the lottery would make you happy? 你真的认为彩票中奖会带给你幸福吗?

make a fast/quick buck 轻易地赚钱

- (*informal, often disapproving*) to earn money quickly and easily
- e.g. The movie is about a group of men trying to make a quick buck as male strippers. 这部影片讲的是一群男人想通过跳脱衣舞发横财的故事。

今日习题

1. 根据英文释义写出文中出现的对应单词

_____ : likely to kill another person; making sb. likely to kill another person

_____ : a person who tricks people into giving them money, etc.

2. 一词多义

Which of the following underlined words is closest in meaning to the one in the sentence "Those similarities have helped turn the nine-episode drama into an unlikely international sensation."? _____

A. One sign of a heart attack is a tingling sensation in the left arm.

B. Jerry realized that he had no sensation in his legs.

C. Caroline had the sensation that she was being watched.

D. The band became a sensation overnight.

3. 翻译：根据给定中文回译英文

从文化上讲，此剧独特的视觉效果在网上引发了热议，尤其是无名卫兵戴着用简单的正方形和三角形装饰的黑色面具，也引发了全球对韩国儿童游戏的好奇心，那些致命比赛就是改编自这些游戏。

习题答案

3. Culturally, the show has sparked an online embrace of its distinct visuals, especially the black masks decorated with simple squares and triangles worn by the anonymous guards, and a global curiosity for the Korean children's games that underpin the deadly competitions.

2. D

1. homicidal; grifter

《鱿鱼游戏》讲述了 456 位负债累累、为生活所困的韩国人受邀参加了一场致命的儿童系列游戏比赛，比如木头人、槌糖、拔河、打弹珠等，而胜利者可以获得 456 亿韩元的奖励。该剧由韩国导演黄东赫执导，于今年 9 月 17 日在奈飞 (Netflix) 首播。自上线以来，《鱿鱼游戏》的点播量便一路蹿升。10 月 12 日，奈飞官方宣布，这部九集的韩剧以 1.11 亿点播（观看时长超 2 分钟）用户数量，成为该平台历史上的开播成绩最好的作品，超过此前的纪录——美剧《布里奇顿》(Bridgerton)，四周时间共累计 8,200 万的点播用户。

黄东赫 (1971 年 5 月 -) 出生于韩国首尔，首尔大学传播系毕业，后获南加州大学电影制作硕士学位。2007 年，黄东赫首次执导并编剧的长篇电影《我的爸爸》上映。影片改编自真实事迹，讲述了一个被美国家庭领养的孩子，在 22 年后回国与杀人犯生父相认的感人故事。2011 年，黄东赫根据真实事件执导的电影《熔炉》上映，试图揭示韩国所面临的社会问题，凭借该影片黄东赫获得了韩国电影青龙奖最佳导演以及最佳剧本的提名。此外，他还执导了《奇怪的她》《南汉山城》等影视作品。

关于《鱿鱼游戏》，黄东赫在接受采访时说，我们所有人都曾在某种程度上玩过剧中的游戏。他制作该影片的灵感一方面来自他在韩国的童年，另一方面来自韩国的现实社会。在 2008 年经济困难时，他曾想写“一个关于现代资本主义社会的寓言”。当时的他还接触了《大逃杀》《赌博默示录》等作品，为《鱿鱼游戏》的创作提供了参照。

参考资料：CNN；Netflix