

# Kung Fu Knight Errant: Globalized/Localized Chinese American Heroic Culture

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The rebels are knights-errant, all very gifted and brave. Their mission is to confront the dynasty, which makes them more romantic and heroic than Robin Hood. This story is loved by the Chinese working class because of its spirit of rebellion, so it is not surprising that the novel was banned by both the Ming dynasty and the Qing dynasty, the last imperial dynasty of China. "Kung-fu" usually refers to combat films in which the fighters bear no weapons, an approach that became popular with the international success of Bruce Lee's films in the 1970s. The term wuxia refers to wu, meaning martial, and xia meaning hero or knight-errant figures. Kung Fu Hustle's parodic treatment of martial arts films includes mocking the association of xia heroism with hegemonic masculinity in the form of heroes who often are physically fit and attractive, like Jackie Chan and Bruce Lee. Pig Sty Alley is full of unlikely martial arts warriors, including a barber, a middle-age woman and a muscular child.