It’s Right to Rebel! (zào fǎn yǒu lǐ):
Heroes, Justice and Anarchy in The Water Margin, Jin Ping Mei and Beyond
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1. Translations:

The Marshes of Mount Liang (Shuihu zhuan, or “Water Margin”), by John and Alex Dent-Young. Hong Kong University Press, 1994 (five volumes)


2. Interpretive Studies:


Hegel, Robert, Reading Illustrated Fiction in Late Imperial China. Stanford University Press, 1998.


3. **Time period in which both Water Margin and Jin Ping Mei are set:**

Xuanhe Reign Period (1119-1125) of the Northern Song Dynasty (960-1126)

4. **Water Margin** 水滸傳

*Putative authors:* Shi Naian 施耐庵 ca. 1290-1370, Luo Guanzhong 羅貫中 ca. 1330-1400

*Earliest extant editions:* Rongyutang/Tiandu waichen, ca. 1560

*Principal Characters:* Song Jiang, Li Kui, Wu Yong, Chao Gai, *Wu Song*, *Wu Da*, *Pan Jinlian*, *Cai Jing*, Yang Zhi... (a total of 108 “heroes” [haohan], and numerous imperial civil & military officials, etc.)

5. **Jin Ping Mei** 金瓶梅

*Possible author:* Li Kaixian 李開先 1502-1568

*Earliest extant editions:* Jin Ping Mei cihua, ca. 1600, Chongzhenben, ca. 1630

*Main Characters:* Ximen Qing, *Wu Song*, *Wu Da*, *Pan Jinlian*, *Cai Jing*, Li Ping’er, Wu Yueniang, Chen Jingji... (a total of six wives, ten “friends”, and many imperial officials, eunuchs, royal nobility, & merchants, etc.)

6. **Subsequent Writers/Artists/Leaders Influenced by the Water Margin**

Utagawa Kuniyoshi, *Suikoden gōketsu hyakuhachinin* (“108 Heroes of Shuihu zhuan”), ca. 1827-30

Takizawa Bakin, *Nansō Satomi Hakken den* (“Eight Dogs”) ca. 1814-1842

Roberto Raviola (“Magnus”), *I Briganti*, 1973-78

Mao Zedong, *Mao zhuxi guanyu Shuihu de tanhua*, (“Chairman Mao on Water Margin”), 1975