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**Life is Elsewhere: Representations of 1980s Intellectuals in Huang Beijia's Nine Novellas**

The 1980s witnessed a crucial interim during which China recovered from the trauma of Cultural Revolution while adapting itself in Reform Era. The Chinese intellectuals of the 1980s, susceptible to the vicissitude as always, impressed the history and narratives of intellectuals with various responses.

In this article, I select Huang Beijia's nine novellas which feature the tragic live experiences and trajectories of the intellectual men and women of the 1980s. By studying these representations, I argue that perplexity is the major trigger of tragedies of the 1980s Chinese intellectuals who resort to escape in response to their adversity and trauma. To back up this argument, I probe into the craze of going abroad in the 1980s and the awakening awareness of one's own sexuality. By doing so, I therefore discuss two forms of escape that echoing intellectuals' perplexity, viz., intellectuals' imagination and connection of the West and sexual transgression.