

Swords

國三乙
蔡尚儒

In modern society, you seldom see swords, even in wars or battles. Weapons like guns, daggers or knives are more common than swords. But back in middle ages, swords were not only one of the most common weapons but were also representative of power and strength.

In the year of 6th century, swords are only used in battles, peasants and even the higher-classes couldn't keep them. As the technique of smelting improved, swords were made into more jeweled patterns, those swords were often unblinded, the only use was to show off the power that it's owners had.

To give examples, we can look through both Chinese and Western legends. In China, an old phrase goes: "A sword is the gentleman of weapons." Also in the story of King Arthur from Celtic culture, Arthur Pendragon needs to pull out the "Sword in the Stone" to prove that he is the descendant of the royalty of Camelot. He also owns the legendary sword "Excalibur" to kill his enemies.

As a result, even though swords' status of war were completely taken over by other weapons, it still means a lot in people's minds. You can see this in novels and cartoons now. Sword isn't the best weapon, but the authors often choose them for the hero or heroine's weapon. Even nowadays, swords are still the representative of strength and glory

