

Symbolic Capital and Narrative Power of Accessories in Haute Couture Womenswear

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Article History	Abstract
Original Research Article	<p><i>This study explores the cultural and social significance of accessories within the haute couture fashion system. Through literature review, case analysis, and semiotic methods, the research examines the role of accessories in the generation and accumulation of symbolic capital, the construction of brand narrative power, and the reproduction of consumer identity. Findings reveal that accessories serve not only as symbols of identity through scarcity and craftsmanship but also acquire enduring value by accumulating cultural recognition. Brands employ accessories to construct narratives that shape women's images and social discourses, while consumers reproduce their identities and participate in narrative re-creation through the selection and use of accessories. The study argues that haute couture accessories are indispensable symbolic carriers in the fashion system, functioning beyond mere decoration to become vital tools of social stratification, cultural communication, and identity construction. The conclusion emphasizes the academic value of accessories as symbolic capital and narrative media, and suggests that future research could further expand into digital fashion and virtual contexts.</i></p> <p>Keywords: Haute couture womenswear; Accessories; Symbolic capital; Narrative power.</p>
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1. Introduction

Haute Couture, as the pinnacle form of the fashion industry, is widely regarded as the concentrated embodiment of fashion discourse power and symbolic capital. It not only represents the most exquisite craftsmanship and the most distinctive design concepts but also constructs a complex symbolic system of identity, taste, and social power. In the production and consumption of haute couture, garments themselves may be the central subjects of narrative, yet accessories—as extensions and complements—carry cultural and social functions far beyond their role as mere “appendages.” On a visual level, accessories enhance the integrity of the overall look; on a social level, they serve as key symbols of class distinction and cultural identity (Bourdieu, 1984).

From a fashion-historical perspective, accessories have always played an essential role in the development of haute couture. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries,

Parisian maisons de couture did not restrict their designs to clothing alone but offered complete styling suggestions that included hats, gloves, jewelry, belts, and other accessories. This tradition continues today, turning haute couture fashion shows into platforms not only for presenting garments but also for reinforcing narratives and brand value through accessories. Examples such as Chanel's camellia brooch, Dior's “Miss Dior” handbag, and Valentino's rose belt demonstrate that accessories function both as independent aesthetic symbols and as carriers of brand cultural memory. As symbolic capital, they not only elevate the perceived value of garments but also establish recognizable systems of cultural symbols in the minds of consumers and the public.

From a sociological perspective, the value of accessories in haute couture lies not only in their material

luxury and scarcity but also in their role as representations of cultural and social capital. As Bourdieu (1984) argues, symbolic capital in consumption is often manifested through differentiated systems of symbols. Owing to their uniqueness, limited availability, and high cost, haute couture accessories become vital tools for certain social groups to distinguish themselves from others. In other words, accessories are not merely decorative objects but externalized forms of social identity and power relations. For instance, when a woman chooses to wear a particular brand's high-end jewelry or handbag at a specific occasion, she is not only pursuing aesthetic effect but also signaling her taste and social position in social interactions.

At the same time, accessories play a crucial role in haute couture narratives. One of the core competencies of the fashion industry lies in its narrative ability—that is, telling brand stories, constructing cultural meanings, and shaping public imagination through garments and accessories. Because accessories are highly recognizable and easily symbolized, they are often endowed with concentrated narrative functions. For example, Chanel's camellia is not merely a floral motif; through long-term brand communication, it has become a cultural metaphor for elegance, resilience, and female independence. Through the symbolic associations carried by accessories, brands are able to exert narrative power in the fashion discourse and convert it into both market value and cultural influence.

However, the value of accessories is not constructed unilaterally by brands and designers; consumers also play an indispensable role. In the contemporary fashion consumption environment, female consumers actively participate in brand narratives through their selection, styling, and interpretation of accessories, thereby expressing and reproducing their identities. Because accessories are smaller in scale and more easily interchangeable than haute couture gowns, they often possess greater mobility and accessibility, thus becoming important bridges that connect luxury culture with popular culture. This consumer-led reinterpretation, in turn, influences brands' design and communication strategies for accessories, creating a dynamic mechanism of interaction between symbolic capital and narrative power.

In haute couture womenswear, accessories are not merely extensions or embellishments of the silhouette but are significant carriers of cultural symbols and social power. Through their scarcity, craftsmanship, and symbolic qualities, they accumulate symbolic capital, and under the dual forces of brand narrative and consumer practice, they emerge as indispensable subjects of study

within the fashion system. Therefore, this paper focuses on the symbolic capital and narrative power of accessories in haute couture womenswear, exploring how designers and brands construct meaning and control cultural discourse through accessories, while also analyzing how female consumers express and reproduce their identities in this process.

2. Research Questions

- (1) How do accessories in haute couture womenswear embody symbolic capital and acquire social value within different cultural contexts?
- (2) What ways do brands and designers construct fashion narratives through accessories and exercise control over their symbolic dissemination?
- (3) How do female consumers, within the interplay of symbolic capital and narrative power, reproduce and express their identities through accessories?

3. Literature Review

3.1 The Relationship between Accessories in Haute Couture Womenswear and Symbolic Capital

Accessories in haute couture womenswear are not merely additions to the silhouette but also significant embodiments of symbolic capital. The concept of symbolic capital was first proposed by Bourdieu, referring to the social recognition and power that members of society gain through symbols, signs, or cultural products (Bourdieu, 1984). Within the haute couture fashion system, accessories become core symbols of social status and cultural refinement due to their scarcity, craftsmanship, and brand narratives.

First, the scarcity of accessories makes them important tools for class distinction. Compared with prêt-à-porter, haute couture accessories often emphasize unique designs and limited production methods. This "rarity" directly reinforces their symbolic function as social capital (He, Ling'e, et al., 2021). For example, certain bespoke jewelry, handbags, or hats are not only material commodities but also social symbols accessible only to a select few, owing to the irreproducibility of their materials and craftsmanship. Such symbolic capital, accumulated through scarcity, positions accessories as externalized forms of identity and status in social interactions (Feng, Yubing, & Teng, Hongjun, 2023).

Second, the craftsmanship of accessories is also a key component of their symbolic capital. Haute couture emphasizes the uniqueness of "handmade" work. Techniques such as jewelry inlay, embroidered belts, or hand-sewn hats not only convey aesthetic values of luxury and refinement but also implicitly endow wearers

with a sense of cultural superiority (Chen, Aizhu, 2021). Once this craftsmanship-based value is transformed into cultural capital, it further consolidates the symbolic function of accessories in haute couture fashion.

In addition, accessories serve as cultural symbols and communicative media, constructing brand value and social meaning through symbolic language. Studies show that accessories often play a crucial role in brand communication; they are deliberately designed as easily recognizable and symbolizable elements, creating lasting impressions in popular culture. For instance, Chanel's camellia brooch or Dior's "Miss Dior" handbag have long transcended the category of mere fashion products, becoming symbols of brand culture (Wang, Xiaomin, 2021). This symbolic capital not only relies on brand narratives but also accumulates and spreads through consumers' acts of wearing and dissemination (Hu, Ying, 2022).

Furthermore, the value of accessories often goes beyond their material attributes, playing an important role in social interactions. As "visualized symbols," accessories become critical bases for social evaluation and recognition through public display (Dong, Xinyu, 2020). For example, in high-end banquets or social gatherings, the accessories chosen by women not only convey aesthetic taste but also subtly construct symbolic expressions of their cultural refinement and social capital.

In sum, the symbolic capital of haute couture womenswear accessories is realized mainly through scarcity, craftsmanship, and cultural symbolization. Accessories are not merely embellishments of fashion styling but externalized forms of social identity, cultural capital, and power relations.

3.2 The Social Value Attributed to Accessories in Haute Couture Womenswear across Different Cultural Contexts

The social value of accessories in different cultural contexts presents a remarkable diversity. They are not only extensions of aesthetics but also important symbols of identity, status, and cultural recognition. In haute couture womenswear, accessories carry cross-cultural functions, with their value extending from the material dimension to cultural and social dimensions, thereby reflecting the multiple expressions of symbolic capital across social environments.

In the context of Western haute couture, accessories are widely regarded as symbols that highlight social status and taste. Luxury jewelry, hats, and handbags are not merely embellishments of the silhouette but affirmations of elite identity. Wang (2021) points out that the symbolic function of high-fashion accessories lies in

their scarcity and signification, making them essential tools of social distinction. Through the selection and wearing of accessories, consumers demonstrate class belonging and cultural capital. This indicates that in Western culture, accessories are not simply ornaments but symbolic objects that sustain and reinforce social hierarchies.

In contrast, in the Chinese cultural context, accessories emphasize cultural heritage and the expression of national identity. Dong (2020), in her study of cultural symbols in IP fashion, argues that accessories often carry traditional motifs and intangible cultural heritage techniques, serving not only as visual decoration but also as media of cultural memory and identity. Similarly, Hu (2022) suggests that contemporary fashion accessories have become vehicles of cultural communication, embedding national elements into modern consumer contexts through symbolic design, thereby achieving a dual construction of cultural and market value. This shows that in the Chinese cultural environment, accessories play a crucial role in sustaining cultural identity and continuing national traditions.

In cross-cultural comparison, the social value of accessories often takes on differentiated functional orientations. Chen and Guan (2021), in their discussion of the symbolic application of the traditional Chinese knot in fashion design, emphasize that the cultural context determines the symbolic function of accessories. For instance, the Chinese knot as an accessory symbolizes auspiciousness and unity, but through fashionization, it has been reinterpreted with modern aesthetics and cross-cultural communicative functions. This case demonstrates that accessories, while carrying traditional meanings, also generate new social values through cross-cultural dissemination.

It is also worth noting that the social value of accessories is influenced by consumption contexts. Feng and Teng (2023) observe that in relation to fabric materials and utilization, the design of accessories often shapes fabric use and economic value. This suggests that accessories do not exist in isolation but derive their social meaning through the intersection of fashion systems and market logic. In haute couture womenswear, accessories acquire added cultural and economic value, making them indispensable tools for consumers in social interaction and cultural expression.

Finally, within the globalized fashion landscape, accessories exhibit multiple layers of social value. Chen, He, and Zhang (2023), adopting a semiotic perspective in their study of ethnic costumes, argue that the symbolic practice of accessories reflects not only aesthetic choices but also cultural discourse power. Through accessories,

different cultures engage in dialogue within the global fashion industry, making them key media for cultural exchange and the construction of social value.

In conclusion, accessories in haute couture womenswear display diversified social values across cultural contexts: in the West, they primarily symbolize wealth and status; in China, they embody cultural heritage and national identity; and in cross-cultural interactions, they act as vehicles of symbolic transformation and cultural communication. This multiplicity not only reveals the central position of accessories in haute couture but also underscores their significance as cultural symbols in the context of globalization.

3.3 Case Studies of How Brands and Designers Construct Fashion Narratives through Accessories

Within the narrative system of haute couture womenswear, accessories are not merely supplementary adornments but serve as crucial tools for designers and brands to convey cultural meaning and construct identity. Through symbolic design and cultural appropriation, accessories become central elements of brand storytelling, reinforcing brand image, extending narrative logic, and creating distinct cultural memories in the minds of consumers.

First, brands often construct unique cultural symbol systems through specific accessory elements. Dong (2020), in a study on cultural symbols in IP fashion, pointed out that the repeated appearance of symbols in fashion products helps establish distinctive brand recognition. For instance, Chanel's camellia, Dior's bow, or Valentino's rose exist not only as aesthetic motifs but also as carriers of historical narratives and cultural symbolism. These accessory elements are continually reinforced, becoming key media through which consumers recognize brands and identify with their cultural connotations.

Second, designers frequently employ traditional cultural symbols in accessories to expand brand narratives. Chen and Guan (2021) noted that the symbolic application of traditional motifs such as the Chinese knot in fashion design retains traditional cultural meanings while also assigning them new narrative functions through modern design language. On the haute couture stage, these elements often appear as necklaces, brooches, or waist ornaments, simultaneously responding to cultural identity needs and injecting cross-cultural significance into brand storytelling.

In addition, accessories function as a "narrative bridge" between brands and consumers. Hu (2022) emphasized that symbolic communication and identity

construction in contemporary fashion culture rely heavily on visual symbols, with accessories—due to their small size, ease of dissemination, and replicability—becoming especially effective carriers of brand culture. For example, limited-edition handbags or uniquely designed earrings are often imbued with stories and emotional value by consumers, enabling secondary storytelling in social interactions and self-expression.

Moreover, the narrative function of accessories extends to the construction of female imagery by brands. Chen, He, and Zhang (2023), in their semiotic analysis of ethnic dress, stressed that clothing and accessories in storytelling represent not only aesthetic design choices but also cultural positioning of women's roles. Some brands highlight women's independence and elegance through accessories, while others emphasize gentleness or romantic qualities through ornamental symbolic designs. These narrative strategies not only shape public perceptions of femininity but also subtly influence broader gender discourse in society.

The narrative power of accessories is also evident in their cross-media dissemination. Wang (2021) argued that the symbolic function of haute couture accessories lies in their ability to spread widely through advertising, exhibitions, and social media, thereby extending brand stories within a globalized consumer environment. Through visual imagery and symbolic communication, brand narratives are fixed in consumers' cultural memories. For example, Tiffany & Co.'s blue box, as the packaging for accessories, has itself become an inseparable brand symbol that far transcends the product's functional meaning.

Finally, accessories in brand narratives exhibit both dynamism and interactivity. Feng and Teng (2023) noted that fashion design is not only concerned with craftsmanship and material efficiency but is also closely tied to market value. This suggests that brands continuously innovate in accessory design to meet consumer demands while simultaneously reconstructing narrative logic at the symbolic level. In this process, designers guide aesthetic trends through symbolic accessories, while consumers participate in narrative-making through their selection and interpretation of accessories, forming an interactive relationship between brand and market.

In summary, the construction of fashion narratives through accessories by brands and designers can be understood across several dimensions: (a) the formation of brand recognition through repetition and symbolization, (b) the expansion of narrative content through the reinvention of cultural symbols, (c) the role of accessories as bridges enabling interactive storytelling

between brands and consumers, and (d) the amplification of narrative influence through cross-media dissemination. These cases demonstrate that accessories in haute couture womenswear are not merely decorative elements but core media for brand cultural storytelling and market value creation.

4. Research Methods

This study adopts an integrated approach combining literature review, case analysis, and semiotic methods. First, a literature review was conducted to establish a theoretical framework and clarify the research trajectory of accessories in relation to symbolic capital and narrative power. Second, the symbolic functions and

narrative strategies of accessories were analyzed across different cultural contexts. Third, semiotic methods were applied to reveal the transformation of meaning from “signifier” to “signified,” examining how accessories contribute to the construction of social identity and cultural recognition. Finally, the researcher’s own accessory design practice was incorporated to cross-validate theoretical insights with creative practice, achieving a dual verification of both academic and practical dimensions.

5. Research Process

5.1 Generation and Accumulation of Symbolic Capital

Table 1: Generation and Accumulation of Symbolic Capital

Mechanism	Specific Manifestation	Meaning and Function
Scarcity	Haute couture accessories are often produced in limited quantities, using unique materials or exquisite craftsmanship, e.g., limited-edition brooches	Creates irreplaceability, turning accessories into “status symbols,” differentiating them from mass consumption, and generating social recognition and symbolic affirmation
Craftsmanship	Hand-set jewelry, traditionally woven belts, hand-embroidered hats, etc.	Accessories embody traditional craft and artistic value; consumers “consume” the labor, culture, and history behind the craftsmanship, giving value beyond physical cost
Cultural Identity	Eastern cloud patterns, peony brooches; Western pearl necklaces, feather adornments, etc.	Accessories carry cultural meaning and historical symbols, serving as markers of collective memory and identity
Brand and Social Interaction	Brands reinforce symbolic value through advertising, fashion shows, and celebrity endorsements; public figures wearing them promote imitation and dissemination	Frequent appearances in social events and on public figures gradually solidify accessories as social symbols; consumers participate in reproduction, enhancing symbolic capital
Integrated Effect	Scarcity + Craftsmanship (material level); Cultural Identity + Brand Interaction (cultural level)	The generation and accumulation of symbolic capital make accessories the core element with the strongest social and cultural symbolism in haute couture womenswear

Source: Drawn by the researcher.

In the system of haute couture women's fashion, accessories, as significant cultural symbols, hold a value that far exceeds mere functionality or ornamentation; they have gradually evolved into a form of symbolic capital that can be accumulated and circulated. The generation of symbolic capital typically relies on three

dimensions: scarcity, craftsmanship, and cultural recognition (see Table 1).

Firstly, scarcity is its most prominent characteristic. Haute couture accessories often emphasize uniqueness through limited production, distinctive craftsmanship, or

special materials, which reinforces their inimitability and creates a differentiating function in the consumer market. As a result, owners can distinguish themselves from the general public through these accessories, thereby gaining unique social status symbols in interpersonal interactions. Secondly, craftsmanship endows accessories with deeper value. Exquisite handwork not only represents the labor of artisans but also conveys the brand's pursuit of artistry and uniqueness. When consumers purchase and wear these accessories, they are effectively "consuming" the craft traditions and cultural heritage behind them. Thirdly, cultural recognition is a critical component in the accumulation of symbolic capital. Accessories often carry specific historical symbols or cultural meanings,

and through symbolic dissemination, they acquire cultural significance beyond their material existence. For example, a brooch is not merely a decorative item; it may symbolize a cultural memory, aesthetic preference, or social ideal. Through this process of symbolic recognition, accessories gradually accumulate intangible capital value.

In summary, the generation of symbolic capital is a process shaped jointly by brand construction, social recognition, and consumer practices, while its accumulation depends on continuous cultural dissemination and symbolic reproduction.

5.2 The Construction and Exercise of Narrative Power

Table2: Pathways of Narrative Power Construction

Stage	Specific Practices	Significance and Role
Design Phase	Incorporating symbolic elements such as geometric shapes, flowers, animals, and religious motifs (e.g., a rose brooch symbolizes romance and femininity)	Establishes a unique narrative language, imbuing accessories with cultural meaning beyond their material attributes
Dissemination and Discourse Control	Highlighting accessories in runway shows, advertisements, exhibitions, and social media (e.g., handbag collections narrate stories of "female independence")	Expands cultural influence, turning accessories into carriers for the dissemination of values
Construction of Female Image	Pearl earrings convey elegance and restraint; metal necklaces signify independent power	Shapes diverse female narratives, guiding identity formation and cultural recognition
Dynamic Response to Society	Integrating topics such as environmental protection, sustainability, and gender equality into accessory design and narrative	Maintains dialogue with societal values, preserving brand discourse power and cultural leadership
Integrated Effect	Design + Dissemination + Image Construction + Dynamic Response	Determines the semantic boundaries of accessories in haute couture, reflecting the brand's capacity to control cultural discourse

Source: Drawn by the researcher.

Narrative power is a crucial mechanism through which haute couture brands and designers shape cultural meaning and influence public imagination via accessories. In the fashion industry, a product alone does not constitute complete cultural value; narrative is needed to imbue it with symbolic significance. Accessories, due to their highly symbolic nature and ease of dissemination, become central media for narrative construction (see

Table 2).

Firstly, designers construct a brand's cultural narrative by endowing accessories with specific symbolic languages. For example, through the repeated use of particular flowers, animals, or geometric motifs, brands gradually transform accessories into recognizable cultural symbols, thereby reinforcing their brand story. Secondly, the exercise of narrative power extends beyond

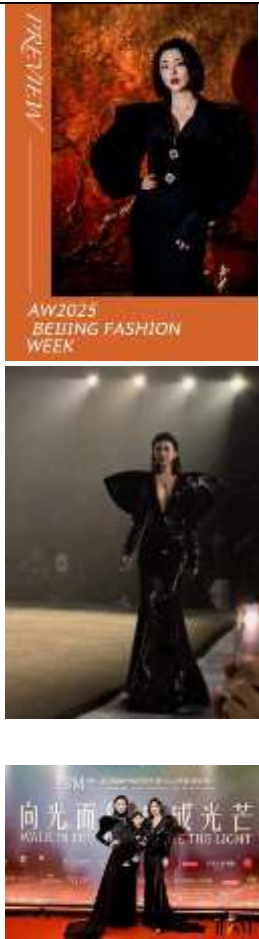
the design phase to dissemination and marketing. Accessories are often placed at the visual center of advertisements, exhibitions, and runway shows; through the spread of images and media, they strengthen the cultural connection between the brand and consumers.

Thirdly, narrative power is also reflected in the construction of female imagery. Through accessories of different styles, brands can convey diverse female identities—independent, elegant, romantic, or rebellious—thus establishing a dominant position within social discourse. Importantly, narrative power is not static;

it is continuously reconstructed through interactions with market feedback and social-cultural dynamics. In controlling narrative, brands must constantly respond to emerging cultural trends and values to maintain the effectiveness of their discourse power. Therefore, narrative power is not merely a product of brand communication strategies but is a key means through which accessories acquire social influence within the cultural-symbolic system.

5.3 The Reproduction of Consumer Identity

Table 3: Pathways of Consumer Identity Reproduction

Dimension	Specific Practices	Significance and Role	Example Image
Externalization of Social Identity	Wearing haute couture jewelry necklaces in formal occasions to convey social status, economic power, and cultural capital	Accessories act as “identity declarations,” gaining social recognition and symbolic advantage	
Individualized Identity Construction	Choosing accessories with ethnic motifs to emphasize cultural belonging; wearing avant-garde designs to express independence and innovation	Accessories serve as key channels for expressing values, aesthetic preferences, and lifestyle	
Secondary Narratives and Interaction	Accessories are diversely interpreted on social media, and their symbolic meanings shift according to consumer interpretations	Consumers become members of the narrative community, co-creating multifaceted symbolic meanings with the brand	
Response to Sociocultural Trends	Selecting jewelry made from eco-friendly materials or accessories with equality themes to express social stances	Accessories become tools for externalizing social attitudes and promoting cultural renewal	
Integrated Effect	Social Identity + Individual Identity + Narrative Interaction + Cultural Response	Consumers are both recipients and creators of symbolic meaning, giving accessories multi-layered social functions and cultural value	

Source: Drawn by the researcher.

If symbolic capital and narrative power reflect the dominance of brands and designers, consumers realize the reproduction of their own identities through the selection and use of accessories. In fashion consumption, the value of accessories depends not only on their material and aesthetic attributes but also on the social symbolic meanings they convey. When consumers wear

accessories, they are effectively transforming these symbolic meanings into an extension of their own identity (see Table 3).

Firstly, accessories serve as tools for the externalization of social identity, allowing consumers to express themselves in specific contexts. For example, a

woman choosing to wear a haute couture jewelry necklace at a formal event not only demonstrates her aesthetic preferences but also implicitly communicates her social status and cultural capital. Secondly, accessories provide consumers with a means to express individuality and cultural stance. In contemporary society, fashion is no longer merely a system of conformity; through freely combining and reinterpreting accessories, consumers achieve individualized identity construction.

Thirdly, consumer practices also feedback into and influence the brand's narrative logic. Due to their adaptability and accessibility, accessories allow consumers to place them in different contexts, thereby generating new narrative meanings. This form of consumption is not merely an acceptance of the brand's narrative but also a process of creative reinterpretation. In this way, consumers achieve the reproduction of their own identities through the use of accessories while simultaneously participating in the dynamic construction of the fashion symbolic system.

6. Discussion

Through the analysis of symbolic capital, narrative power, and the reproduction of consumer identity, it is evident that accessories in haute couture women's fashion are not merely decorative elements but constitute a multi-layered symbolic system.

Firstly, at the level of symbolic capital, accessories accumulate value through scarcity, craftsmanship, and cultural recognition, becoming crucial resources for social distinction and identity signaling. This accumulation not only strengthens the connection between brands and elite social groups but also renders accessories a tangible manifestation of intangible capital.

Secondly, the construction of narrative power allows brands and designers to control cultural discourse through accessories. Their repeated presence in runway shows, advertisements, and media not only shapes distinctive brand stories but also plays a key role in constructing female imagery. By leveraging symbolic accessories to convey values, brands extend their influence to the sociocultural sphere.

However, the narrative of accessories is not a one-way process. Consumers actively participate in the reproduction of symbols through their selection and use, imbuing accessories with new meanings across different contexts and combinations, thereby creating "secondary narratives." This process demonstrates that consumers are not only recipients of brand stories but also co-creators of the narrative itself.

Finally, in the context of globalization and social

change, accessories have become important media for cross-cultural communication and value expression. Whether through the reinterpretation of traditional symbols or the response to environmental and gender-related issues, accessories serve dual functions of cultural dissemination and social expression.

In summary, the role of accessories in haute couture women's fashion has transcended the aesthetic realm, functioning as accumulators of symbolic capital, carriers of narrative power, and mediators of identity reproduction. They exemplify the deeper value of fashion as both a form of social practice and cultural production.

7. Conclusion

This study explores accessories in haute couture women's fashion from the perspectives of symbolic capital and narrative power, revealing their central role within the fashion system. The research shows that accessories are not merely appendages to clothing but serve as carriers of cultural and social significance.

Firstly, as symbolic capital, accessories accumulate value through scarcity, craftsmanship, and cultural recognition, becoming important resources for social distinction and identity signaling. This mechanism of symbolic capital accumulation endows accessories in haute couture with cultural attributes that transcend their material existence.

Secondly, accessories function as core media for narrative power. Brands and designers employ symbolic design and cross-media dissemination to embed brand stories and values within accessories, playing a key role in constructing female imagery and controlling cultural discourse.

Thirdly, consumers achieve the reproduction of their identities through the use of accessories. By selecting and styling accessories, they express individuality and stance, and through "secondary narratives," participate in the co-creation of brand culture, driving the dynamic generation of symbolic meaning.

In summary, accessories in haute couture women's fashion act as accumulators of symbolic capital, carriers of narrative power, and mediators of identity reproduction. This study not only expands theoretical perspectives in fashion research but also provides designers, brands, and consumers with a new framework for understanding fashion culture. Future research could further examine the symbolic functions of accessories in digital fashion, the metaverse, and social media, revealing their extended value in emerging cultural contexts.

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