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《教父》50 周年：这究竟是不是一部伟大的作品？
经济学家

reputed /riˈpjʊtɪd/ a. 据说的, 据称的
eg. The restaurant is reputed to be the best in the city.
大家都觉得某某餐厅是这个城市最好的。

"The Godfather" turns 50

达到某个年龄

在书出版后, 短期内的非常畅销

Mario Puzo's "The Godfather" is reputed to be the fastest-selling book in history. By early 1971, 7m copies had been printed.
马里奥·普佐 被普遍认为是最畅销书。

在这 50 年中
《教父》收获
了巨大的成功

sb only do sth to do sth else
做某事仅为达到另外一件事才做了某件事

释义: sufficiently qualified; adequate for the purpose
(候选人) 合格的 (事情) 达到标准的

In many respects, it deserved its success. "The Godfather" is more than competently written.

Puzo aspired to literary greatness and only conjured up Vito Corleone and his family's adventures and misadventures to escape debt. "I'll make him an offer he can't refuse", the Don's cynical quip, has become a figure of speech. Some scenes—such as the planting of a racehorse's severed head on the bed of a Hollywood producer who did refuse the Don—have passed into folklore.

1 aspire to great knowledge)
对知识的渴望
类似于“朝闻道, 夕死可矣”的态度

向往, 有抱负于完成某项事业
不幸遭遇; 不幸遭遇 on an unfortunate incident
我会给他开一个他无法拒绝的条件 黑手党 轻蔑的, 嘲弄的
偷偷放置 become a part of sth. 成为某物的一部分
Many foreign words have passed into Chinese. 很多外来的词汇现在已经进入中文的一部分

death by misadventure
意外致死 (英, 官方用语)

a word or phrase used in a different way from its usual meaning in order to create a particular mental picture or effect
为了创造一种特定的心理画面或效果

正反两方面
更加深刻的剖析

The author got a lot of things right: the subtlety of communication between Sicilians in particular and Italians in general; the incorporation, often reluctant, of mobsters from other ethnic backgrounds into the American Mafia; and, above all, Cosa Nostra's usurpation of responsibilities that belong to the state, including the dispensing of justice.

get sth right = understand correctly 正确地理解
强调特殊性 强调普遍性
a. 不情愿, 勉强 泛指所有类型的黑社会成员
the incorporation of A into B 把 A 并入 B 的过程

He usurped the throne. 他篡夺王位

usurpation /juːˈzɜːrpeɪʃn/ n. 篡夺, 夺取
usurp v. 侵占, 篡夺 (强调夺取这个动作是非合法的)
“The Godfather” also gets things wrong, though. It portrays gangsters (the way gangsters like to be regarded) as fundamentally honourable types (who offer genuine services and seek no more than to be respected for their contributions to society).

portray sb as sth 将 sb 刻画为某个形象
描绘, 刻画 状态描写 黑帮成员
seek no more than 除此之外, 不求回报

将黑社会刻画成 常见的评论开头

类似于法官的平衡,
这篇文章的观点,
是这样的平衡,
是十分不恰当的,

It can be argued that in the book and in the first movie, Puzo managed to strike an acceptable balance. But its sequel is a whitewash: the young Vito Corleone transformed seemingly overnight from a loving husband into a homicidal, yet still essentially decent, Don.

balance. 平衡
whitewash 漂白, 洗白 /haɪˈmiːsɔːdl/
a. 暗杀性的 本质上来说 正义的
homicide n. 谋杀, 凶杀

黑帮头目的经历
过于浪漫化了, 是
不准确的, 不恰当的

That is not how youngsters become Mafiosi in real life. They are co-opted from among the most brutal of their peers and then subjected to a process of systematic, additional brutalisation until they are ready to kill to order. Puzo's version is seductive, but insidious.

do sth to order 定制
a. 诱惑的, 充满诱惑的 危险的
根据 sb 的指令去做某事

mobster
gangster
youngster
-ster 一个...样的人

Mafioso n. 黑手党成员
Mafiosi (复数)

sth in general and sth in particular
先给人一个大的范围, 再精确到更为具体的案例

① 文化沟通细节
② 帮派兼并
③ 所谓的“替死鬼”
《教父》对黑帮文化理解到位的地方

strike a balance between A and B
在 A 和 B 之间取得平衡

select + among
可以更加明确的表达出这个范围是由可数个个体组成的, 是个可以具体描述的范围

