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# **The Good Women Of China Hidden Voices**

For eight groundbreaking years, Xinran presented a radio programme in China during which she invited

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women to call in and talk about themselves. Broadcast every evening, Words on the Night Breeze became famous through the country for its unflinching portrayal of what it meant to be a woman in modern China. Centuries

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of obedience to their fathers, husbands and sons, followed by years of political turmoil had made women terrified of talking openly about their feelings. Xinran won their trust and, through her compassion and

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ability to listen, became the first woman to hear their true stories. This unforgettable book is the story of how Xinran negotiated the minefield of restrictions imposed on Chinese journalists to reach

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out to women across the country. Through the vivid intimacy of her writing, the women's voices confide in the reader, sharing their deepest secrets for the first time. Their stories changed Xinran's

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understanding of China forever. Her book will reveal the lives of Chinese women to the West as never before.

At the dawn of the 1930s a new empowered and liberated image of the female was

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taking root in popular culture in the West. This 'modern woman' archetype was also penetrating into Eastern cultures, however, challenging the Chinese and Japanese historical norm of the woman as homemaker,

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servant or geisha. Through a focus on the writings of the Western women who engaged with the Far East, and the Eastern writers and personalities who reacted to this new global gender communication by forming



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their own separate identities, Katrina Gulliver reveals the complex redefining of the self taking place in a crucial time of political and economic upheaval. Including an analysis of the work of

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Nobel Prize laureate Pearl S. Buck, *The Modern Woman in China and Japan* is an important contribution to gender studies and will appeal to historians and scholars of China and East Asia as well as to those

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studying Asian and American literature.

Most analyses of gender in High Qing times have focused on literature and on the writings of the elite; this book broadens the scope of inquiry to include women's

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work in the farm household, courtesan entertainment, and women's participation in ritual observances and religion. In dealing with literature, it shows how women's poetry can serve the historian as well as the

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literary critic, drawing on one of the first anthologies of women's writing compiled by a woman to examine not only literary sensibilities and intimate emotions, but also political judgments, moral values, and social

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relations.

When should a woman disobey her father, contradict her husband, or shape the policy of a ruler? According to the *Lienü zhuan*, or *Categorized Biographies of Women*, it is not only appropriate but

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necessary for women to offer counsel when fathers, husbands, sons, and rulers stray from virtue. The earliest Chinese text devoted to the moral education of women, the Lienü zhuan was compiled by

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Liu Xiang (79–8 B.C.E.) at the end of the Han dynasty (202 B.C.E.–9 C.E.) and recounts the deeds of both virtuous and wicked women. Informed by early legends, fictionalized historical accounts, and formal



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speeches on statecraft, the text taught generations of Chinese women to cultivate filial piety and maternal kindness and undertake such practices as suicide and self-mutilation to preserve chastity and reform wayward

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men. The Lienü zhuan's stories inspired artists for a millennium and found their way into local and dynastic histories. An innovative work for its time, the text remains a critical tool for mapping women's social,

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political, and domestic  
roles at a formative time in  
China's development.

A Journey to Fierce  
Compassion

Shang Dynasty to the Early  
Twentieth Century

The Republican Period in

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Historical Perspective

Factory Girls

Recovering a Women's History  
of Chinese Protestantism

Women in Ancient China

Rhetoric, Experience, and  
Self- Perception in

Twentieth-century China

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**Referred to as the "Grand  
Prix of epidemiology" by  
The New York Times, this  
study examines more than  
350 variables of health  
and nutrition with surveys  
from 6,500 adults in more**

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**than 2,500 counties across  
China and Taiwan, and  
conclusively demonstrates  
the link between nutrition  
and heart disease,  
diabetes, and cancer.  
While revealing that**

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proper nutrition can have a dramatic effect on reducing and reversing these ailments as well as curbing obesity, this text calls into question the practices of many of the

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**current dietary programs, such as the Atkins diet, that are widely popular in the West. The politics of nutrition and the impact of special interest groups in the creation and**



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dissemination of public  
information are also  
discussed.

Lily is the daughter of a  
humble farmer, and to her  
family she is just another  
expensive mouth to feed.

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**Then the local matchmaker delivers startling news: if Lily's feet are bound properly, they will be flawless. In nineteenth-century China, where a woman's eligibility is**

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**judged by the shape and size of her feet, this is extraordinary good luck. Lily now has the power to make a good marriage and change the fortunes of her family. To prepare for her**

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**new life, she must undergo  
the agonies of  
footbinding, learn nu shu,  
the famed secret women's  
writing, and make a very  
special friend, Snow  
Flower. But a bitter**

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**reversal of fortune is  
about to change  
everything.**

**Explores historical and  
philosophical shifts in  
the depiction of women and  
virtue in the early years**

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of the Chinese state.

Includes an examination of  
the history of yin-yang  
theories.

Christian Women and Modern  
China explores how women  
have made history

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**throughout the development  
of Chinese Protestantism.  
Studying their lived  
experiences facilitates a  
nuanced understanding  
about the interplays of  
Christianity, gender,**

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**power and modern Chinese  
history.**

**Exemplary Women of Early  
China**

**The Good Women of China  
Women and Fiction in  
Nineteenth-century China**



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**Women in China's Long  
Eighteenth Century  
Writing Women of Imperial  
China  
Writing Women in Modern  
China  
Sky Burial**

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In the early years of the People's Republic, the Communist Party sought to transform gender relations. Yet those gains have been steadily eroded in China's post-socialist era. Contrary to the image presented by China's media, women in China have experienced a dramatic rollback of

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rights and gains relative to men. In *Leftover Women*, Leta Hong Fincher exposes shocking levels of structural discrimination against women, and the broader damage this has caused to China's economy, politics, and development.

This study of Chinese women in the

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book trade begins with three case studies, each of which probes one facet of the relationship between women and fiction in the early 19th century. Building on these studies, the second half of the book focuses on the many sequels to the Dream of the Red Chamber and the significance of this

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novel for women.

The story of three generations in twentieth-century China that blends the intimacy of memoir and the panoramic sweep of eyewitness history—a bestselling classic in thirty languages with more than ten million copies sold around the world, now with

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a new introduction from the author. An engrossing record of Mao's impact on China, an unusual window on the female experience in the modern world, and an inspiring tale of courage and love, Jung Chang describes the extraordinary lives and experiences of her family members: her grandmother,

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a warlord's concubine; her mother's struggles as a young idealistic Communist; and her parents' experience as members of the Communist elite and their ordeal during the Cultural Revolution. Chang was a Red Guard briefly at the age of fourteen, then worked as a peasant, a

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“barefoot doctor,” a steelworker, and an electrician. As the story of each generation unfolds, Chang captures in gripping, moving—and ultimately uplifting—detail the cycles of violent drama visited on her own family and millions of others caught in the whirlwind of history.



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In this important new book the renowned historian Serge Gruzinski returns to two episodes in the sixteenth century which mark a decisive stage in global history and show how China and Mexico experienced the expansion of Europe. In the early 1520s, Magellan set sail

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for Asia by the Western route, Cortes seized Mexico and some Portuguese based in Malacca dreamed of colonizing China. The Aztec Eagle was destroyed but the Chinese Dragon held strong and repelled the invaders - after first seizing their cannon. For the first time, people from

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three continents encountered one other, confronted one other and their lives became entangled. These events were of great interest to contemporaries and many people at the time grasped the magnitude of what was going on around them. The Iberians succeeded in America and

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failed in China. The New World became inseparable from the Europeans who were to conquer it, while the Celestial Empire became, for a long time to come, an unattainable goal. Gruzinski explores this encounter between civilizations that were different from one another but that

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already fascinated contemporaries, and he shows that our world today bears the mark of this distant age. For it was in the sixteenth century that human history began to be played out on a global stage. It was then that connections between different parts of the world began to accelerate, not only

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between Europe and the Americas but also between Europe and China. This is what is revealed by a global history of the sixteenth century, conceived as another way of reading the Renaissance, less Eurocentric and more in tune with our age.

The Good Women Of China

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Manliness

Three Women at the Heart of  
Twentieth-Century China  
The Resurgence of Gender Inequality  
in China  
The Gender of Memory  
The Red Brush  
An Anthology of Women's Literature

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## from the Early Twentieth Century

*After a long spell of chaos, the Qin and Han dynasties (221 BCE-220 CE) saw the unification of the Chinese Empire under a single ruler, government, and code of law. During this era, changing*



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*social and political institutions affected the ways people conceived of womanhood. New ideals were promulgated, and women's lives gradually altered to conform to them. And under the new political system,*

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*the rulers' consorts and their families obtained powerful roles that allowed women unprecedented influence in the highest level of government.*

*Recognized as the leading work in the field, this*

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*introductory survey offers the first sustained history of women in the early imperial era. Now in a revised edition that incorporates the latest scholarship and theoretical approaches, the book draws*

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*on extensive primary and secondary sources in Chinese and Japanese to paint a remarkably detailed picture of the distant past. Bret Hinsch's introductory chapters orient the nonspecialist to early*

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*imperial Chinese society; subsequent chapters discuss women's roles from the multiple perspectives of kinship, wealth and work, law, government, learning, ritual, and cosmology. An enhanced array of line*

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*drawings, a Chinese-character glossary, and extensive notes and bibliography enhance the author's discussion.*

*Historians and students of gender and early China alike will find this book an*

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*invaluable overview.*

*This book examines the implications of new communication technologies in the light of the most recent work in social and cultural theory and argues that new developments in*

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*electronic media, such as the Internet and Virtual Reality, justify the designation of a "second media age".*

*Chinese rulers guaranteed male successors by taking multiple wives, sometimes in*



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*the thousands. Women Shall Not Rule is a fascinating history of the imperial wives and concubines, especially in light of the greatest challenges to polygamous harmony—rivalry between women and their*

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*attempts to engage in politics. Keith McMahan, a leading expert on the history of gender in China, draws upon decades of research to describe polygamous emperors and women rulers throughout*

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*Chinese history. Displaying rare historical breadth, his lively and fascinating study will be invaluable as a comprehensive and authoritative resource for all readers interested in the domestic life of royal*

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of modern times*

*Life, Love and Death in  
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Dreams of Conquest in China*

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*and America in the Sixteenth  
Century*

*Imperial Wives and*

*Concubines in China from Han  
to Liao*

*Wild Swans*

*Women in China*

**In the wake of the monstrous projects**

*Page 62/173*

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of Hitler, Stalin, Mao, and others in the twentieth century, the idea of utopia has been discredited. Yet, historian Jay Winter suggests, alongside the 'major utopians' who murdered millions in their attempts to transform the world were disparate groups of people trying in their own separate ways to imagine

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a radically better world. This original book focuses on some of the twentieth-century's 'minor utopias' whose stories, overshadowed by the horrors of the Holocaust and the Gulag, suggest that the future need not be as catastrophic as the past. The book is organized around six key moments



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when utopian ideas and projects flourished in Europe: 1900 (the Paris World's Fair), 1919 (the Paris Peace Conference), 1937 (the Paris exhibition celebrating science and light), 1948 (the Universal Declaration of Human Rights), 1968 (moral indictments and student revolt), and

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1992 (the emergence of visions of global citizenship). Winter considers the dreamers and the nature of their dreams as well as their connections to one another and to the history of utopian thought. By restoring minor utopias to their rightful place in the recent past, Winter fills an important

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gap in the history of social thought and action in the twentieth century.

An eye-opening and previously untold story, *Factory Girls* is the first look into the everyday lives of the migrant factory population in China. China has 130 million migrant workers—the largest migration in human history. In

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Factory Girls, Leslie T. Chang, a former correspondent for the Wall Street Journal in Beijing, tells the story of these workers primarily through the lives of two young women, whom she follows over the course of three years as they attempt to rise from the assembly lines of Dongguan, an

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industrial city in China 's Pearl River Delta. As she tracks their lives, Chang paints a never-before-seen picture of migrant life—a world where nearly everyone is under thirty; where you can lose your boyfriend and your friends with the loss of a mobile phone; where a few computer or

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English lessons can catapult you into a completely different social class. Chang takes us inside a sneaker factory so large that it has its own hospital, movie theater, and fire department; to posh karaoke bars that are fronts for prostitution; to makeshift English classes where students shave

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their heads in monklike devotion and sit day after day in front of machines watching English words flash by; and back to a farming village for the Chinese New Year, revealing the poverty and idleness of rural life that drive young girls to leave home in the first place. Throughout this riveting

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portrait, Chang also interweaves the story of her own family ' s migrations, within China and to the West, providing historical and personal frames of reference for her investigation. A book of global significance that provides new insight into China, *Factory Girls* demonstrates



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how the mass movement from rural villages to cities is remaking individual lives and transforming Chinese society, much as immigration to America ' s shores remade our own country a century ago.

Writing Women in Modern China is the first major anthology in English to

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highlight the contributions of women to modern literary culture with respect to the heated gender debates of early twentieth-century China. Featuring examples of fiction, drama, autobiography, essays, and poetry by eighteen writers, many of whom have been neglected by mainstream literary

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history, this collection demonstrates the creative diversity in modern women's writing. The editors' introduction charts key developments in the study of gender, literature, and women's writing in modern China and provides an overview of the relevant historical events of this century's first

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three decades. From Qiu Jin's experimental narrative *Stones of the Kingwei Bird*, one of the earliest fictional representations of women's liberation from the traditional Confucian family, to Bing Xin's "Our Mistress's Parlor," which presents a satire of an intellectual salon in 1930s

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Shanghai, Writing Women in Modern China offers an unrivaled opportunity to explore an important body of imaginative work.

A Chinese peasant overcomes the forces of nature and the frailties of human nature to become a wealthy landowner.

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Women

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Precious Records

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Sharing the Light

Women Factory Workers in a Global

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*A deeply personal and shocking look at how China is coming to terms with its conflicted past as it emerges into a modern, cutting-edge superpower. Through the stories of three generations of*

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*women in her family, Karoline Kan, a former New York Times reporter based in Beijing, reveals how they navigated their way in a country beset by poverty and often-violent political unrest. As the Kans move from quiet*



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*villages to crowded towns and through the urban streets of Beijing in search of a better way of life, they are forced to confront the past and break the chains of tradition, especially those forced on women. Raw and revealing,*

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*Karoline Kan offers gripping tales of her grandmother, who struggled to make a way for her family during the Great Famine; of her mother, who defied the One-Child Policy by giving birth to Karoline; of her cousin, a shoe*

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*factory worker scraping by on 6 yuan (88 cents) per hour; and of herself, as an ambitious millennial striving to find a job--and true love--during a time rife with bewildering social change. Under Red Skies is an*

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*engaging eyewitness account  
and Karoline's quest to  
understand the rapidly evolving,  
shifting sands of China. It is the  
first English-language memoir  
from a Chinese millennial to be  
published in America, and a*

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*fascinating portrait of an  
otherwise-hidden world, written  
from the perspective of those  
who live there.*

*This extraordinary novel, winner  
of a 1990 American Book Award,  
recounts the story of two*

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*women--Mulberry and  
Peach--who are really one.  
Mulberry is a young woman who  
has fled the turmoil of postwar  
China to settle in the United  
States. Unable to forget the  
terrors she has witnessed or*

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*resolve the conflicts between her new life and her old, she develops a second personality: fearless, tough-talking, sexually uninhibited, Peach. While Mulberry clings to her cultural and ethical roots, Peach*

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*renounces her past to embrace the American way of life with a vengeance. Brilliantly innovative in style, Mulberry and Peach offers a rare women's perspective on the upheavals of modern China, and presents an*



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*unforgettable portrait of the pain  
of cultural dislocation and the  
anguish of psychological  
disintegration.*

*An unprecedented, intimate  
account of the lives of modern  
Chinese women, told by the*

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*women themselves -- true stories of the political and personal upheavals they have endured in their chaotic and repressive society For eight groundbreaking years, Xinran hosted a radio program in China during which*

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*she invited women to call in and talk about themselves. Broadcast every evening, Words on the Night Breeze became famous throughout the country for its unflinching portrayal of what it meant to be a woman in modern*

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*China. Centuries of obedience to their fathers, husbands and sons, followed by years of fear under Communism, had made women terrified of talking openly about their feelings. Xinran won their trust and, through her*

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*compassion and ability to listen, became the first woman to hear their true stories. This unforgettable book is the story of how Xinran negotiated the minefield of restrictions imposed on Chinese journalists to reach*

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*out to women across the country. Through the vivid intimacy of her writing, these women confide in the reader, sharing their deepest secrets. Whether they are the privileged wives of party leaders or peasants in a forgotten corner*

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*of the countryside, they tell of almost inconceivable suffering: forced marriages, sexual abuse, separation of parents from their children, extreme poverty. But they also talk about love -- about how, despite cruelty, despite*

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*politics, the urge to nurture and cherish remains. Their stories changed Xinran's understanding of China forever. Her book will reveal the lives of Chinese women to the West as never before.*



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*As China has evolved into an industrial powerhouse over the past two decades, a new class of workers has developed: the dagongmei, or working girls. The dagongmei are women in their late teens and early twenties*

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*who move from rural areas to urban centers to work in factories. Because of state laws dictating that those born in the countryside cannot permanently leave their villages, and familial pressure for young women to*

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*marry by their late twenties, the dagongmei are transient labor. They undertake physically exhausting work in urban factories for an average of four or five years before returning home. The young women are not*

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*coerced to work in the factories; they know about the twelve-hour shifts and the hardships of industrial labor. Yet they are still eager to leave home. Made in China is a compelling look at the lives of these women, workers*

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*caught between the competing demands of global capitalism, the socialist state, and the patriarchal family. Pun Ngai conducted ethnographic work at an electronics factory in southern China's Guangdong province, in*

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*the Shenzhen special economic zone where foreign-owned factories are proliferating. For eight months she slept in the employee dormitories and worked on the shop floor alongside the women whose*

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*lives she chronicles. Pun illuminates the workers' perspectives and experiences, describing the lure of consumer desire and especially the minutiae of factory life. She looks at acts of resistance and*

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*transgression in the workplace,  
positing that the chronic  
pains—such as backaches and  
headaches—that many of the  
women experience are as  
indicative of resistance to  
oppressive working conditions as*



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*they are of defeat. Pun suggests that a silent social revolution is underway in China and that these young migrant workers are its agents.*

*Made in China*

*The Most Comprehensive Study*

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*of Nutrition Ever Conducted and  
the Startling Implications for Diet,  
Weight Loss and Long-term  
Health*

*Women and Sexuality in China*

*Women and Culture in*

*Seventeenth-Century China*

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*The China Study  
Dominant Discourses of Female  
Sexuality and Gender Since  
1949  
An Ethnography*

**Since the early 1980s sex  
and sexuality have become**

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prominent themes of public debate in China, after three decades during which discourses on sexuality were subject to stringent ideological controls. This book analyses the ways in

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which sex and sexuality  
have been discussed in The  
People's Republic of China  
since 1949. It examines a  
wide range of materials -  
the official and popular  
press, women's magazines,

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sex education

publications, self-help  
guides and medical advice  
pamphlets - and compares  
and contrasts the various  
discourses of sexuality  
and the meanings

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associated with 'woman'  
that emerge from them. It  
considers the role of the  
state in matters of  
sexuality, and argues that  
women's sexuality has been  
consistently targeted as a

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site for the regulation of general standards of sexual and social conduct. This is a highly original contribution to the growing body of literature on women and gender in



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China. It will appeal to students and scholars of modern and contemporary China, and to all those engaged in current debates about sexuality and gender in international feminist

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scholarship.

When Deng Xiaoping's efforts to "open up" China took root in the late 1980s, Xinran recognized an invaluable opportunity. As an employee for the

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state radio system, she had long wanted to help improve the lives of Chinese women. But when she was given clearance to host a radio call-in show, she barely anticipated the

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enthusiasm it would quickly generate. Operating within the constraints imposed by government censors, "Words on the Night Breeze" sparked a tremendous

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outpouring, and the hours of tape on her answering machines were soon filled every night. Whether angry or muted, posing questions or simply relating experiences, these

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anonymous women bore witness to decades of civil strife, and of halting attempts at self-understanding in a painfully restrictive society. In this

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collection, by turns heartrending and inspiring, Xinran brings us the stories that affected her most, and offers a graphically detailed, altogether

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unprecedented work of oral  
history.

It was 1994 when Xinran, a  
journalist and the  
internationally acclaimed  
author of The Good Women  
of China, received a



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telephone call asking her to travel four hours to meet a woman who had just crossed the border from Tibet into China. Xinran made the trip and met the woman, called Shu Wen, who

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recounted the story of her  
thirty-year odyssey in the  
vast landscape of Tibet.  
In Sky Burial, Xinran has  
re-created Shu Wen's  
journey, painting an  
extraordinary portrait of

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a woman and a land, each at the mercy of fate and politics. It is an unforgettable, ultimately uplifting tale of love, loss, loyalty, and survival.

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Describes the changing  
reality of women's lives  
during the China's  
republican, revolutionary  
and reform eras  
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From Village to City in a

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**Global Modernity Between  
the Wars**

**Notable Women of China**

They were the most famous  
sisters in China. As the country  
battled through a hundred years  
of wars, revolutions and seismic

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transformations, the three Soong sisters from Shanghai were at the center of power, and each of them left an indelible mark on history. Red Sister, Ching-ling, married the 'Father of China', Sun Yat-sen, and rose to be

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Mao's vice-chair. Little Sister, May-ling, became Madame Chiang Kai-shek, first lady of pre-Communist Nationalist China and a major political figure in her own right. Big Sister, Ei-ling, became Chiang's unofficial main



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adviser - and made herself one of China's richest women. All three sisters enjoyed tremendous privilege and glory, but also endured constant mortal danger. They showed great courage and experienced

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passionate love, as well as despair and heartbreak. They remained close emotionally, even when they embraced opposing political camps and Ching-ling dedicated herself to destroying her two sisters'

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worlds. Big Sister, Little Sister, Red Sister is a gripping story of love, war, intrigue, bravery, glamour and betrayal, which takes us on a sweeping journey from Canton to Hawaii to New York, from exiles' quarters in

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Japan and Berlin to secret meeting rooms in Moscow, and from the compounds of the Communist elite in Beijing to the corridors of power in democratic Taiwan. In a group biography that is by turns intimate and epic,

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Jung Chang reveals the lives of three extraordinary women who helped shape twentieth-century China.

“An important and much-needed introduction to this rich and fast-growing field. Hershatter has

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handled a daunting task with aplomb.” —Susan L. Glosser, author of Chinese Visions of Family and State, 1915–1953  
Lala (lesbian) and gay communities in mainland China have emerged rapidly in the 21st

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century. Alongside new freedoms and modernizing reforms, and with mainstream media and society increasingly tolerant, lalas still experience immense family and social pressures to a degree that this

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(tomboy-wife) roles, family and kinship, same-sex weddings, lalagay contract marriages, and community activism.

Engelbrechtsen analyzes lala strategies of complicit transgressions to balance

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surface respectability and undeclared same-sex desires, why "being normal" emerges a deep aspiration and sign of respectability, and why openly lived homosexuality and public activism often are not. Queer

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recognition, equality, and freedom, and argues that dominant paradigms fixed on categories, identities, and the absolute value of public visibility are ill-equipped to fully understand these complexities.

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posthumous careers; little traditions and discourses of otherness; women in social and economic life; and women's education. Mechthild Leutner is professor of Chinese studies at the Freie Universitt in Berlin. Nicola Spakowski is a

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existence within the constraints of the Confucian system. Momentous socioeconomic and intellectual changes in 17th-century Jiangnan provided the stimulus for the flowering of women's culture. The most salient of these changes

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included a flourishing of commercial publishing, the rise of a reading public, a new emphasis on emotions, the promotion of women's education, and, more generally, the emergence of new definitions of womanhood. The



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author reconstructs the social, emotional and intellectual worlds of 17th-century women, and in doing so provides a new way to conceptualize China's past, one offering a more realistic and complete understanding of the

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villages that have changed little in centuries. In a mist-shrouded valley on China's invisible border with Tibet is a place known as the "Kingdom of Women," where a small tribe called the Mosuo lives in a cluster of villages that have

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changed little in centuries. This is one of the last matrilineal societies on earth, where power lies in the hands of women. All decisions and rights related to money, property, land and the children born to them rest with the Mosuo women, who

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live completely independently of husbands, fathers and brothers, with the grandmother as the head of each family. A unique practice is also enshrined in Mosuo tradition--that of "walking marriage," where women choose their own

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lovers from men within the tribe but  
are beholden to none.

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both premodern and modern women in China, several scholarly books, articles, and even anthologies of women's poetry have been published in the last two decades. This anthology differs from previous works by offering a glimpse of

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enormous gender imbalance—with a predicted twenty million more men than women of marriage age by 2020—and China's first generations of only-daughters. Given the resources normally reserved for boys, these girls were pushed to

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study, excel in college, and succeed in careers, as if they were sons. Now living in an economic powerhouse, enough of these women have decided to postpone marriage—or not marry at all—to spawn a label: "leftovers." Unprecedentedly well-

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educated and goal-oriented, they struggle to find partners in a society where gender roles have not evolved as vigorously as society itself, and where new professional opportunities have made women less willing to compromise their careers



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or concede to marriage for the sake of being wed. Further complicating their search for a mate, the vast majority of China's single men reside in and are tied to the rural areas where they were raised. This makes them geographically,

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economically, and educationally incompatible with city-dwelling “leftovers,” who also face difficulty in partnering with urban men, given the urban men’s general preference for more dutiful, domesticated wives. Part critique of China’s

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paternalistic ideals, part playful portrait of the romantic travails of China's trailblazing women and their well-meaning parents who are anxious to see their daughters snuggled into traditional wedlock, Roseann Lake's Leftover in China

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focuses on the lives of four individual women against a backdrop of colorful anecdotes, hundreds of interviews, and rigorous historical and demographic research to show how these "leftovers" are the linchpin to

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