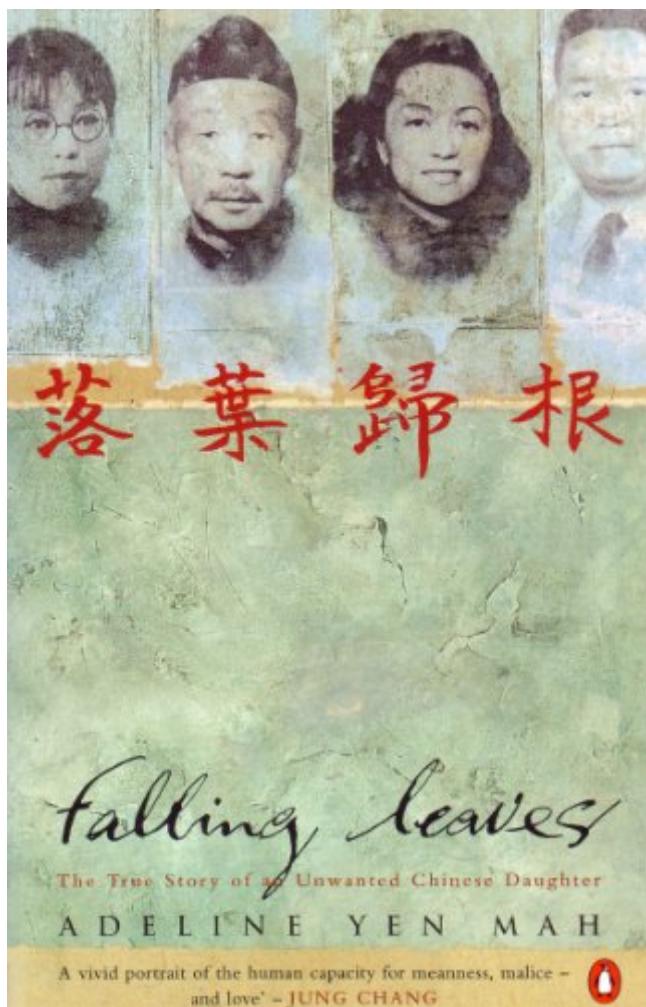


The book was found

Falling Leaves Return To Their Roots: The True Story Of An Unwanted Chinese Daughter



Synopsis

The story of an unwanted Chinese daughter growing up during the Communist Revolution, blamed for her mother's death, ignored by her millionaire father and unwanted by her Eurasian step mother. A story of greed, hatred and jealousy; a domestic drama is played against the extraordinary political events in China and Hong Kong. Written with the emotional force of a novel but with a vividness drawn from a personal and political background. **FALLING LEAVES** has become a surprise bestseller all over the world.

Book Information

File Size: 1422 KB

Print Length: 287 pages

Page Numbers Source ISBN: 0141047089

Publisher: Penguin; New Ed edition (March 5, 1998)

Publication Date: March 5, 1998

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B002ZJSUJC

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Not Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #335,802 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #13

in Books > History > Asia > Hong Kong #146 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Historical > Asia > China #195 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Ethnic & National > Chinese

Customer Reviews

In 1937, Adeline Yen Mah's mother died giving birth to her. Because of this, she was considered "bad luck", tormented by her siblings and shunned by her father. Her father soon remarried a beautiful, young Eurasian woman who was cruel and manipulative. She treated all five of her stepchildren badly, but saved her real hatred for Adeline. **Falling Leaves** is the powerful, riveting memoir of emotional abuse and isolation that Ms Yen Mah suffered at the hands of her stepmother. At this point, most would say, "Why would I want to torture myself by reading a book about child abuse?" The answer is simple...Adeline Yen Mah didn't just survive her childhood, she triumphed.

With great wisdom and insight, she tells a story not just about her life, but the life of China, before and after the cultural revolution and how both were changed forever. Despite her miserable childhood, she excelled, became a doctor, married and found freedom and a new life in America. This is an amazing, compelling story, told by an amazing woman who was not only able to put the past behind her, but was able to celebrate life and move forward.

Adeline Yen Mah's "Falling Leaves" is a searingly honest memoir of her unhappy childhood in China. In addition, she provides a colorful and lively portrayal of the customs, history and social upheaval of her native country from the late 1800's until the 1970's. Adeline was the daughter of a prosperous businessman, Joseph Yen, who was happily married to a woman he adored. He had five children, the youngest of whom was Adeline. Tragically, Adeline's mother died shortly after she was born. To compound the misery, Adeline's father soon married a woman so cruel that she fitted the stereotype of the wicked stepmother in Cinderella. Niang, as Jeanne Prosperi Yen was called by her stepchildren, was a control freak. She was a manipulative woman who verbally and physically abused the children who were out of favor with her. Adeline describes her efforts to grow up whole in spite of a loveless upbringing. She turned for solace most of all to her beloved Aunt Baba, who loved her unconditionally and was truly proud of her. Adeline took great delight in schoolwork, which brought her intellectual and emotional satisfaction. Mah eloquently recounts harrowing experiences that left lasting scars. In addition, she vividly describes the sights and sounds of such cities as Shanghai, Tianjin and Hong Kong. "Falling Leaves" is an intensely psychological and personal memoir in which Adeline Yeh Mah bares her soul and candidly conveys her difficult struggle to leave the past behind. The result is an unforgettable story of a courageous young woman who, in spite of the obstacles she faced, refused to give in to despair.

This was one of the most touching stories I have ever read; it is beautifully written and heartrenching, yet warms the spirit to hear of such a strong soul! I cried at the injustices Adeline suffered at the hands of her father and especially her step-mother. I was also moved to tears by the injustice endured by her family at the hands of the angry mobs in revolutionary China. I was overjoyed and excited for her in her triumphs. I came to feel love and care for this amazing young woman from China, a place so foreign to me. I came to better understand what compels others to do things not in their own best interests in order to gain the acceptance and affection of a loved one. I believe we should thank Ms. Adeline Yen Mah for her courage and strength and her gift to us, that of sharing her amazing spirit with her readers. I encountered great difficulty putting this book down,

and when not reading I found myself thinking of the story! A wonderful literary experience for anyone!

To kill time while i was having IV injections in a hospital bed, i picked up the book. To my surprise, i was compelled to reading it through for the next one day and one night, prompting plenty of complains from my doctor and nurses. However, i simply could not put down the book. The story, or Adeline's life experience was so disturbingly painful, but her description was so powerful. As a Chinese born also in Shanghai, i comprehend and appreciate fully the circumstances and historical evens surrounding the family, the city (Shanghai, Tianjin and Hong Kong) as well the country. Her life-time search for family acceptance and love in a loveless family was so painstakingly persistent that i found myself more than once crying. Human nature was distorted by greed, jealousy and ego-mania. In her case, human nature was further distorted by complications of a political movement in China. China's Culture Revolution, in particular, has twisted many people's consciousness, sharpening their knives against their own family members, friends and many other innocent people. In this case, i found Lydia is equally ugly as Niang. Even though Adeline's growing life was tough beyond imagination, Adeline didn't seem to stop smiling, caring for others, looking for the bright future and having wonderful sense of humor, for that, i admire her courage. The book is also beautifully versed with excellent insertions of Chinese proverbs, further evidence of her ability of winning a world writing award even as a young girl. If any improvement, i just wish the ending is not so abrupt. Life has not done her justice yet. I hope she will have a sequal. I also sincerely hope the Yen family ugliness will not pass on to the third generation as already shown in Lydia's family.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Falling Leaves Return to Their Roots: The True Story of an Unwanted Chinese Daughter Falling Leaves: The Memoir of an Unwanted Chinese Daughter Chinese books: Jojo's Playful Day in Chinese (Simplified Chinese book) Chinese book about a curious elephant: Bedtime Story for children in Chinese (Kids ... (Chinese beginner reading books for kids 1) Chinese Cinderella: The True Story of an Unwanted Daughter I Love to Tell the Truth (chinese english bilingual,chinese children stories,mandarin kids books): mandarin childrens books,bilingual chinese (Chinese English Bilingual Collection) (Chinese Edition) I Love to Share (mandarin childrens books, chinese baby books): kids books in chinese, chinese children stories, mandarin kids (Chinese Bedtime Collection) (Chinese Edition) Childrens book Chinese : Gifts for my Mother - Bedtime kids Story Chinese book for children (Kids ages 3-9): Chinese book for children to celebrate Mothers (Chinese beginner reading books for kids 7) I Love to Eat Fruits and Vegetables (Chinese children's books, Chinese

Bilingual children's books,): english chinese kids, mandarin kids books, ... Bilingual Collection) (Chinese Edition) Leaves Fall Down: Learning About Autumn Leaves Fletcher and the Falling Leaves Ruby's Falling Leaves (Max and Ruby) Shanyi Goes to China (Children Return to their Roots) Chinese childrens books: Jojo's Christmas Day in Chinese - Christmas Bedtime Story (bilingual) English-ChinesePicture book (Kids ages 3-9): (Bed time book) ... (Easy Chinese reading books for Kids) Be the Dad She Needs You to Be: The Indelible Imprint a Father Leaves on His Daughter's Life Chinese Made Easy for Kids Textbook 1 (Simplified Chinese) (English and Chinese Edition) Chinese Made Easy for Kids Workbook 1 (Simplified Chinese) (Mandarin Chinese Edition) Hippocrene Children's Illustrated Chinese (Mandarin) Dictionary: English-Chinese/Chinese-English (Hippocrene Children's Illustrated Foreign Language Dictionaries) Chinese Paradise-The Fun Way to Learn Chinese (Student's Book 1B) (v. 1B) (Chinese Edition) I Love My Mom: Chinese children's books, Mandarin childrens books (English Chinese Bilingual Collection) (Chinese Edition) A Queer and Pleasant Danger: The true story of a nice Jewish boy who joins the Church of Scientology, and leaves twelve years later to become the lovely lady she is today

[Dmca](#)