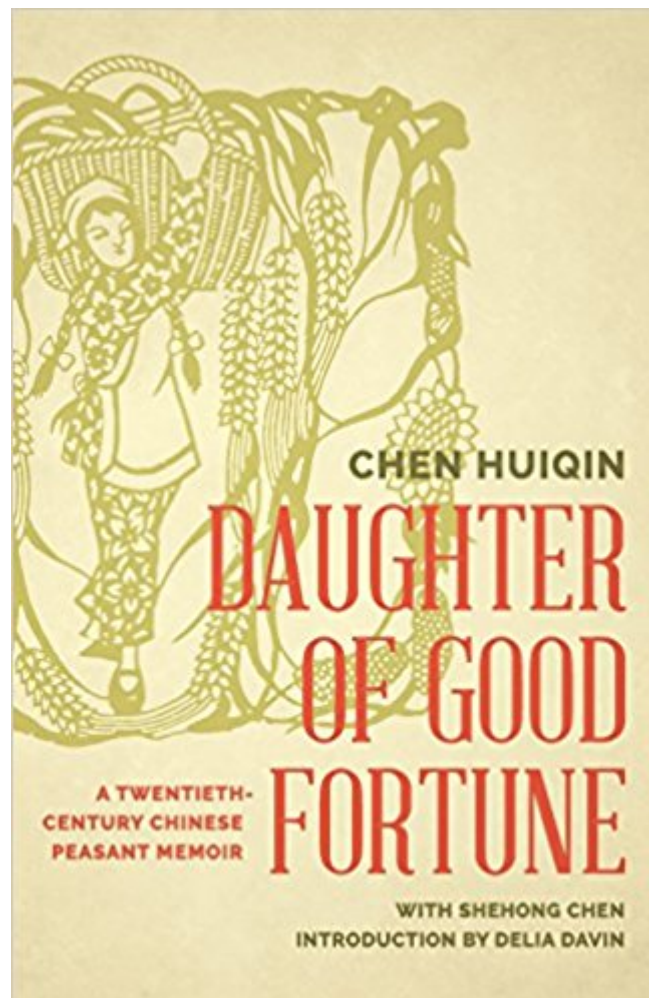




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Daughter Of Good Fortune: A Twentieth-Century Chinese Peasant Memoir



Synopsis

Daughter of Good Fortune tells the story of Chen Huiqin and her family through the tumultuous 20th century in China. She witnessed the Japanese occupation during World War II, the Communist Revolution in 1949 and its ensuing Land Reform, the Great Leap Forward, the Cultural Revolution, and the Reform Era. Chen was born into a subsistence farming family, became a factory worker, and lived through her village's relocation to make way for economic development. Her family's story of urbanization is representative of hundreds of millions of rural Chinese.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"This is a smoothly written and richly detailed memoir that reflects the changes in peasant life in the Shanghai suburbs from the 1930s to the present." •Gail Hershatter, author of *The Gender of Memory: Rural Women and China's Collective Past* "Daughter of Good Fortune illustrates the immense changes rural people have experienced since the founding of the PRC through today. It really is a worthy sequel to the classic account of peasant life in pre-communist China, *Daughter of Han*." •Jeremy Brown, author of *City Versus Countryside in Mao's China*

Chen Huiqin was born in 1931 in Wang Family Village, in Jiading Country near Shanghai, and now lives on her ancestral land. Shehong Chen is associate professor of history at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell. She is the author of *Being Chinese, Becoming Chinese American*. Delia Davin is emeritus professor of Chinese studies at the University of Leeds. She is the author of *Woman Work: Women and the Party in Revolutionary China*.

As a history teacher, I began to develop an interest in China about two years ago, and now teach two courses in which China plays a prominent role. This book offers so much valuable insight into Chinese history during the twentieth century, mostly after the communists came to power. We can see vividly here how all the changes impacted the author, an ordinary Chinese peasant woman. The text is wonderfully lucid and clear and contains endnotes and a glossary that are helpful to those of us still learning about Chinese history and culture, or may be completely unfamiliar with it. The stories contained here are absolutely precious. It is an honor to have Chen Huiqin's book in my library.

Great insight into life and ideals of Chinese culture

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