

Tsukiyama, Gail

The Samurai's Garden

(1995)

The invasion of China (1930s) provides the backdrop for the relationship between a 20-year-old artist who suffers from tuberculosis and Matsu, a master gardener.

Walbert, Kate

Gardens of Kyoto

(2001)

A quiet novel that tells of vanishing women and their loves, fear filled children, and men damaged by war.

Wynd, Oswald

The Ginger Tree

(1977)

In 1903 a young Scottish woman travels to Peking to marry a stuffy military attache. In Peking she meets an Japanese aristocrat, Count Kentaro Kurihama, whose path will continue to cross hers during her years in the East.

Yoshikawa, Mako

One Hundred and One Ways

(1999)

Kiki Takehashi's life is dramatically different from the one lived by her Japanese grandmother whom she has never met. Still, Kiki feels a secret kinship with the grandmother, the legendary geisha Yukiko, and becomes swept up by the story of the proud passionate woman who found the love that has eluded the following generations of Takehashi women.

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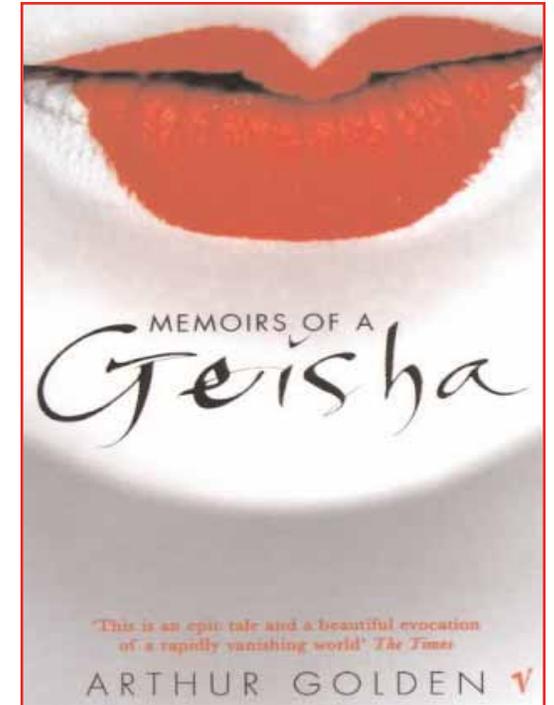
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Memoirs of a Geisha,*



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Dalby, Liza

The Tale of Murasaki

(2000)

This is a fictional biography of Murasaki Shikibu, author of the Japanese literary classic *The Tales of Genji*, in the 11th century.



Harrison, Kathryn

The Binding Chair or, A Visit From the Foot Emancipation Society

(2000)

A young Chinese woman escapes an arranged marriage in rural 19th-century China for life in a Shanghai brothel, where she meets an Australian man who will change her life once again.



Liu, Aimee

Cloud Mountain

(1997)

This epic fictional tale is based on the true experience of the author's grandparents - one a Chinese revolutionary and the other a teacher of English - set against a backdrop of two world wars, bigotry and personal tragedy.

Enchi, Fumiko

The Waiting Years

(1971)

Awarded the Noma Prize, Japan's highest literary honor, this tale tells the story of a young woman, Tomo, whose mission is to find her husband a mistress.

Jose, Nicholas

The Red Thread

(2000)

Two lives are intertwined across the centuries in this love story set in modern-day Shanghai and China of 200 years ago.



McCunn, Ruthanne Lum

The Moon Pearl

(2000)

The story of three young girls living in China's Pearl River Delta in the 19th century who fought and won a battle for economic and personal independence that changed the future for thousands of others.

Fleischman, Lisa Huang

Dream of the Walled City

(2000)

Jade, born in 1890, must leave her upper class beginnings behind her in order to survive China's great political upheavals.

Kawabata, Yasunari

Snow Country

(1996)

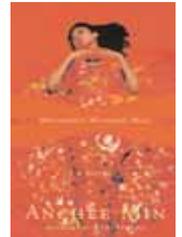
A rich Tokyo dilettante, Shimamura, makes three visits to a hot spring in the west of Japan, where a young geisha becomes his mistress.

Min, Anchee

Becoming Madame Mao

(2000)

The unwanted daughter of a concubine flees her family life, first to a provincial opera troupe, then to Shanghai and fame as an actress, and finally to Yenan, where she falls in love with Mao Zedong.



Han, Suyin

Till Morning Comes

(1982)

This love story is set in China during the Second World War through the years of the Cultural Revolution.

Lim, Catherine

The Bondmaid

(1997)

At the age of four, Han, a young woman born into dire poverty in 1950s Singapore, is sold as a slave to the wealthy house of Wu. Forming a close bond with the young Wu heir, Han's childhood attachment grows into a bittersweet existence of frustrated love and passion.



Scott, Joanna C.

The Lucky Gourd Shop

(2000)

Mi Sook, a south Korean orphan, endures hardships and violence throughout her life.

Strauss, Darin

Chang and Eng: A Novel

(2000)

This fictionalized account tells of the real-life story of conjoined twins born in Siam in 1811.