



CHINA

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The following list is a sampling of the books we have on this subject. Children's, teen, and adult books are included here. Students and their parents should choose the books that are most appropriate for them.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS

Bronze and Sunflower

by Wenxuan Cao

J F CAO

Taken in by a poor family in a rural village after the death of her father, Sunflower bonds with the family's only child, Bronze, who has not spoken since being traumatized by a terrible fate. 386 pages

View from Pagoda Hill

by Michaela MacColl

J F MACCOLL

As the daughter of a Chinese woman and American man, Ning doesn't fit in in 1870s Shanghai. Her American features and unbound feet make her stand out. When her father takes her to live with him in America, she discovers that living there isn't perfect either. 360 pages

The Dreamweavers

by G.Z. Schmidt

J F SCHMIDT

Twin siblings journey through the City of Ashes and visit the Jade Rabbit to save their grandpa in this Chinese folklore-inspired fantasy adventure. 261 pages

Front Desk

by Kelly Yang

J F YANG

Mia Tang has a lot of secrets. Number one: She lives in a motel, not a big house. While her immigrant parents clean the rooms, 10-year-old Mia manages the front desk and tends to its guests. Number two: Her parents hide immigrants. And if the motel owner, Mr. Yao, finds out, the Tangs will be doomed. Number three: She wants to be a writer. 286 pages

Zachary Ying and the Dragon Emperor

by Xiran Jay Zhao

J F ZHAO

After his augmented reality gaming headset is possessed by the spirit of the First Emperor of China, 12-year-old Chinese American Zack Ying must travel across China to steal an ancient artifact, fight figures from Chinese history and myth, and seal a portal to prevent malicious spirits from destroying the human realm. 340 pages

Shen of the Sea

by Arthur Bowie Chrisman

J NEWBERY CHRISMAN

Sixteen original stories reflecting the spirit of Chinese life and thought. 221 pages

Young Fu of the Upper Yangtze

by Elizabeth Foreman Lewis

J NEWBERY LEWIS

In the 1920s, a Chinese youth from the country comes to Chungking with his mother where the bustling city offers adventure and his apprenticeship to a coppersmith brings good fortune. 267 pages

Measuring Up

by Lily LaMotte

J COMICS LAMOTTE

Having just moved to Seattle from Taiwan, 12-year-old Cici enters a cooking competition to win the chance to see her grandmother again, but she only knows how to cook Taiwanese food. 205 pages

 **Little White Duck**

by Andrés Vera Martínez and Na Liu

J COMICS MARTINEZ

A young girl describes her experiences growing up in China, beginning with the death of Chairman Mao in 1976. 108 pages.

Jia and the Nian Monster

by Mike Richardson

J COMICS RICHARDS

Each new year is marked by a monster's attack on their mountain village. This year, young Jia and her friend Deshi have decided to fight back. For Deshi, it is the grand adventure he has always dreamed of. For Jia, it is revenge for the loss of her mother—who was taken by the monster five years before. 68 pages

 **City of Dragons: The Awakening Storm**

by Jaimal Yogis

J COMICS YOGIS

When Grace moves to Hong Kong with her mom and new stepdad, her biggest concern is making friends at her fancy new boarding school. But when a mysterious old woman gifts her a dragon egg during a field trip, Grace discovers that the wonderful stories of dragons she heard when she was a young girl might actually be real. 232 pages

 **China's Son**

by Da Chen

J BIO CHEN

A Chinese American lawyer shares his memories of growing up in rural China during Mao's Cultural Revolution, describing how he struggled to overcome persecution and adversity to achieve an education. 213 pages

A Song for China

by Ange Zhang

J BIO GUANG

During a period of struggle, artists born under the weight of Japanese occupation work to preserve the Chinese cultural work, poetry, and songs. 79 pages

 **Chinese Cinderella**

by Adeline Yen Mah

J BIO MAH

The daughter of a wealthy Hong Kong businessman describes her very difficult childhood and the psychological abuse she suffered at the hands of her stepmother. 205 pages

YOUNG ADULT FICTION

 **American Panda**

by Gloria Chao

YA F CHAO

Mei is only 17 and already a freshman at MIT, but her Taiwanese immigrant parents won't be satisfied until she has a medical degree, a Taiwanese doctor husband, and children. Unfortunately, there are a few things her parents don't know: the boy Mei likes is Japanese, she's actually a germaphobe, she'd rather be dancing, and worst of all she's in touch with her estranged older brother. 310 pages

  **Freedom Swimmer**

by Wai Chim

YA F CHIM


Ming survived the famine that killed his parents during China's "Great Leap Forward", and lives a hard but adequate life, working in the fields. A group of city boys comes to the village as part of a Communist Party re-education program and despite his reservations, Ming befriends a city boy called Li. As they slowly form a bond over evening swims and shared dreams, they begin to imagine the impossible: freedom. 236 pages

  **These Violent Delights**

by Chloe Gong

YA F GONG

In 1926 Shanghai, 18-year-old Juliette Cai, heir of the Scarlet Gang, and her first love-turned-rival Roma Montagov, leader of the White Flowers, must work together when mysterious deaths threaten their city. 449 pages

  **Under a Painted Sky**

by Stacey Lee

YA F LEE

In 1845, Sammy, a Chinese-American girl, and Annamae, an African-American slave girl, disguise themselves as boys and travel on the Oregon Trail to California from Missouri. 374 pages

  **Heiress Apparently**

by Diana Ma

YA F MA

When budding actress Gemma Huang flies to Beijing to star in a film of M. Butterfly, she is mistaken for a notorious socialite, kicking off a series of revelations her parents had carefully concealed from her. 291 pages

 **Private Label**

by Kelly Yang

YA F YANG

Serene's mom is sick and she's forced to take over her mom's fashion label. She also wants to find out what happened to her dad in Beijing. Lian Chen moved from China to Serene's mostly white beach town a year ago. He doesn't fit in at school and his parents don't care about what he wants to do--comedy. Lian thinks there's nothing to stick around for until one day he starts a Chinese Club and Serene walks in. 404 pages

  **The Epic Crush of Genie Lo**

by F.C. Yee

YA F YEE

The struggle to get into a top-tier college consumes 16-year-old Genie's every waking thought. But when she discovers she's a celestial spirit who's powerful enough to bash through the gates of heaven with her fists, her perfectionist existence is shattered. 310 pages

  **Iron Widow**

by Xiran Jay Zhao

YA F ZHAO

In order to battle the aliens that lie beyond the Great Wall, boys and girls from Huaxia must pair up to pilot giant transforming robots called Chrysalises. Unfortunately, the mental strain often causes the girls to die. But Zetian is different—she's an Iron Widow who is able to sacrifice boys to power the Chrysalises instead and she will not quit until she can figure out a way to stop girls from being sacrificed. 394 pages

GRAPHIC NOVELS

The Undertaking of Lily Chen

by Danica Novgorodoff

GRAPHIC NOVELS NOVGOROD

Deshi accidentally kills his older brother, Wei, by shoving him in front of a moving jeep. Their mother, calling on the old tradition of ghost marriage, demands that Deshi find Wei a corpse bride—a recently deceased single woman who will be with him in the afterlife. With the help of a matchmaker, a grave robber, and a hospital attendant, Deshi finds stubborn, spirited Lily, who would make a great bride—if she weren't alive. 429 pages

Blade of the Shao Jun

by Minoji Kurata

YA COMICS ASSASSIN

1526 AD. China is ruled by the Great Ming Empire. Though the empire flourishes, the winds of the new Emperor's political purge are sweeping over the land, and turmoil is brewing. With the decimation of her comrades, Shao Jun has become China's last Assassin. After escaping to Europe, she has now returned alone to her homeland. Her purpose: vengeance! 152 pages

 **Messy Roots**

by Laura Gao

YA COMICS GAO

Seamlessly toggling between past and present, this funny graphic memoir follows a queer Chinese American's immigration to Texas where she just wants to make the basketball team, escape Chinese school, and figure out why she is attracted to girls. 269 pages

 **American Born Chinese**

by Gene Luen Yang

YA COMICS YANG

Alternates three interrelated stories about the problems of young Chinese Americans trying to participate in popular culture. 233 pages

Boxers

by Gene Luen Yang

YA COMICS YANG

China, 1898: Bands of foreign missionaries and soldiers roam the countryside, bullying and robbing Chinese peasants. Little Bao has had enough, and harvesting the power of ancient Chinese gods, he recruits an army of "Boxers"—commoners trained in kung fu who fight to free China from "foreign devils". 328 pages

The Boy Who Became a Dragon

by Jim Di Bartolo

YA COMICS BIO LEE

Presents a biography of the martial arts legend, Bruce Lee, describing his childhood in Hong Kong and how it was shaped by World War II, and his success as an international star. 233 pages

ADULT FICTION

The Good Earth

by Pearl S. Buck

F BUCK

Wang Lung, a Chinese peasant, rises from poverty to become a rich landowner with the aid of his patient wife in the 1920s. 357 pages

The Library of Legends

by Janie Chang

F CHANG

China, 1937: When Japanese bombs begin falling on the city of Nanking, 19-year-old Hu Lian and her classmates at Minghua University are ordered to flee. They have been entrusted with a 500-year-old collection of myths and folklore known as the Library of Legends. As the ancient books travel across China, they awaken immortals and guardian spirits to embark on an exodus of their own, one that changes the country's fate forever. 366 pages

Land of Big Numbers

by Te-Ping Chen

F CHEN

A debut story collection offering a kaleidoscopic portrait of life for contemporary Chinese people, set between China and the United States. 236 pages

When We Were Orphans

by Kazuo Ishiguro

F ISHIGURO

Christopher Banks, an English boy born in early 20th century Shanghai, is orphaned at age nine when both his mother and father disappear under suspicious circumstances. He grows up to become a renowned detective, and more than 20 years later, returns to Shanghai to solve the mystery of the disappearances. 335 pages

Little Gods

by Meng Jin

F JIN

A story of migrations literal and emotional, spanning time, space and class, Little Gods is a sharp yet expansive exploration of the aftermath of unfulfilled dreams, an immigrant story in negative that grapples with our tenuous connections to memory, history, and self. 279 pages

A Hero Born

by Yong Jin

F JIN

Guo Jing returns to China after the death of his father to carry out his destiny and battle an opponent he's spent his life preparing to fight. 394 pages

The Leavers

by Lisa Ko

F KO

One morning, 11-year-old Deming Guo's mother, an undocumented Chinese immigrant named Polly, goes to her job and never comes home. Deming is eventually adopted by two white college professors who move him from the Bronx to a small town. This is a story of a boy who struggles to find his footing in a new world and also an unflinching look at the difficult decisions a mother faces. 338 pages

Searching for Sylvie Lee

by Jean Kwok

F KWOK

In a Chinese immigrant family, when one sister disappears, a tangle of family secrets emerges. 317 pages

Pearl of China

by Anchee Min

F MIN

In the small southern town of Chin-kiang, in the last days of the 19th century, young Willow and young Pearl S. Buck, the headstrong daughter of zealous Christian missionaries, bump heads and embark on a friendship that will sustain both of them through one of the most tumultuous periods in Chinese history. 278 pages

  **The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane**

by Lisa See

F SEE

Li-Yan and her family devote their lives to farming tea. Like her mother, Li-Yan is being groomed to become a midwife in her Chinese village, but she yearns for more and is allowed to pursue her schooling. When Li-Yan finds herself alone and pregnant, she leaves her child, wrapped with a tea cake, at an orphanage. Her daughter is adopted by a couple from California, but she is drawn to the study of tea. 371 pages

  **The Joy Luck Club**

by Amy Tan

F TAN

After being drawn together by the shadows of their past, four women start meeting every week in San Francisco to engage in hobbies they all enjoy. After one of the four members dies, her daughter takes her place to fulfill her mother's dying wish. After the revelation of a secret, the women are forced to think back to their pasts and remember the sometimes-painful events of their lives. 288 pages

  **What We Were Promised**

by Lucy Tan

F TAN

Returning home to Shanghai after years of chasing the American dream, Wei Zhen and his newly wealthy family, including his wife, Lina, and their daughter, Karen, must each confront painful secrets and unfulfilled promises. 328 pages

YA & ADULT NONFICTION

 **Factory Girls**

by Leslie T. Chang

331.4095 CHA

An eye-opening and previously untold story, "Factory Girls" is the first look into the everyday lives of the migrant factory population in China. 431 pages

The Cambridge Illustrated History of China

by Patricia Buckley Ebrey

951 EBR

Provides an overview of Chinese history. 384 pages

Imperial China

by Dorling Kindersley Limited

951 IMP

From the clans and legends of prehistory to the last Qing emperor, this book brings China's imperial history to life through its pivotal events, political forces, and powerful people, in a stunning collaboration between British and Chinese publishing houses. 400 pages

China: Land of Dragons and Emperors

by Adeline Yen Mah

YA 951 MAH

Mah explores an extraordinary view of the great story of China over the last two millennia. Topics include its ancient dynasties, Chinese inventions, Chinese festivals and beliefs, and major changes in Chinese society. 240 pages

The Great Wall

by John Man

951 MAN

John Man travels the entire length of the Great Wall and across two millennia to find the truth behind the legends. Along the way, he delves into the remarkable and complex history of China—from the country's tribal past right up to the modern day. 336 pages

China: An Intimate Look at the Past and Present

by Anthony Paul

951 PAU

Revisits the areas where China's Long March—the momentous 6,000-mile journey across China by the Red Army—took place. 396 pages

1368: China and the Making of the Modern World

by Ali Humayun Akhtar 951.026 AKH
With the goal of understanding China's future in a changing international landscape, this book offers a new picture of China's rise since the Age of Exploration and its historical impact on the modern world. 208 pages

 **Last Boat Out of Shanghai**

by Helen Zia 951.042 ZIA
The true story of four young people whose lives are forever changed as they flee their homes and the violence and tyranny of Mao and the rise of his Communist regime in Shanghai in 1949. 499 pages

  **Wild Swans**

by Jung Chang 951.05 CHA
A Chinese woman chronicles the struggles of her grandmother, mother, and herself to survive in a China torn apart by wars, invasions, revolution, and continuing upheaval, from 1907 to the present. 524 pages

Big Sister, Little Sister, Red Sister

by Jung Chang 951.0509 CHA
They were the most famous sisters in China. As the country battled through a hundred years of wars, revolutions and seismic transformations, the three Soong sisters from Shanghai were at the center of power, and each of them left an indelible mark on history. 384 pages

Blood Letters

by Xi Lian 951.056 LIA
The staggering story of the most important Chinese political dissident of the Mao era, a devout Christian who was imprisoned, tortured, and executed by the regime. 331 pages

Under Red Skies

by Karoline Kan 951.061 KAN
Explores generational bonds and divisions in one family due to China's cultural traditions, changing societal norms, and growing economy. 304 pages

China in One Village

by Hong Liang 951.152 LIA
An unforgettable portrait of the tectonic shifts happening in rural China -- told through the microcosm of one small town. 307 pages

Today Hong Kong, Tomorrow the World

by Mark Clifford 951.25 CLI
A gripping history of China's deteriorating relationship with Hong Kong, and its implications for the rest of the world. 306 pages

Mao Zedong and the Chinese Revolution

by Corinne Naden BIO YA MAO
A look at the life of the man who transformed China from a culture steeped in ancient traditions into a revolutionary communist state and renewed trade with the United States. 144 pages

My Name Is Number 4

by Ting-xing Ye BIO YA YE
The real-life story of Ting-xing Ye, the fourth child in a family torn apart by China's Cultural Revolution. At the age of 16, she was exiled to a prison farm and despite years of terror was able to keep her spirit intact. 230 pages

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