

Mings Adventure In The Forbidden City A Story In English And Chinese

The gripping true story of the intrepid curators who saved China's finest art from the ravages of the Sino-Japanese War and World War II. Spring 1933. The silent courtyards and palaces of Peking's Forbidden City are tense with fear and expectation. Japan's aircraft drone overhead; its troops and tanks are only hours away. All-out war between China and Japan is coming, and the curators of the Forbidden City are faced with an impossible question- how will they protect the vast imperial art collections in their charge? The magnificent collections contain a million pieces of art - objects that carry China's deepest and most ancient memories. Among them are irreplaceable artefacts- exquisite paintings on silk, vanishingly rare Ming porcelain and the extraordinary Stone Drums of Qin, which are adorned with 2,500-year-old inscriptions of crucial cultural significance. For sixteen terrifying years, under the quiet leadership of museum director Ma Heng, the curators would go on to transport the imperial art collections thousands of miles across China - up rivers of white water, across mountain ranges and through burning cities. In their search for safety the curators and their fragile, invaluable cargo journeyed through the maelstrom of violence, chaos and starvation that was China's Second World War. Told for the first time in English and playing out across a vast historical canvas, this is the exhilarating story of a small group of men and women who, when faced with war's onslaught on civilisation, chose to resist. Splendid collection of 2 figures and 16 dazzling costumes designed for traditional characters in Chinese opera. Lavishly embroidered robes, elegant headdresses, and

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painted faces for male and female characters.

Eleven-year-old Delphine has it together. Even though her mother, Cecile, abandoned her and her younger sisters, Vonetta and Fern, seven years ago. Even though her father and Big Ma will send them from Brooklyn to Oakland, California, to stay with Cecile for the summer. And even though Delphine will have to take care of her sisters, as usual, and learn the truth about the missing pieces of the past. When the girls arrive in Oakland in the summer of 1968, Cecile wants nothing to do with them. She makes them eat Chinese takeout dinners, forbids them to enter her kitchen, and never explains the strange visitors with Afros and black berets who knock on her door. Rather than spend time with them, Cecile sends Delphine, Vonetta, and Fern to a summer camp sponsored by a revolutionary group, the Black Panthers, where the girls get a radical new education. Set during one of the most tumultuous years in recent American history, one crazy summer is the heartbreaking, funny tale of three girls in search of the mother who abandoned them—an unforgettable story told by a distinguished author of books for children and teens, Rita Williams-Garcia.

DigiCat Publishing presents to you this special edition of "The Once and Future King" by T. H. White. DigiCat Publishing considers every written word to be a legacy of humankind. Every DigiCat book has been carefully reproduced for republishing in a new modern format. The books are available in print, as well as ebooks. DigiCat hopes you will treat this work with the acknowledgment and passion it deserves as a classic of world literature.

Traditional Japanese Fashions Paper Dolls

Wayfarers 1

Sound the Warning

A Novel

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Thomas and the Forbidden Castle

The Way of Kings

The Reese Witherspoon x Hello Sunshine Book Club Pick

INSTANT NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER “A sumptuous

garden maze of a novel that immerses readers in a complex,

vanished world.” —Kirkus (starred review) An utterly

transporting novel set in 1930s colonial Malaysia, perfect for

fans of Isabel Allende and Min Jin Lee Quick-witted, ambitious

Ji Lin is stuck as an apprentice dressmaker, moonlighting as a

dancehall girl to help pay off her mother’s Mahjong debts. But

when one of her dance partners accidentally leaves behind a

gruesome souvenir, Ji Lin may finally get the adventure she has

been longing for. Eleven-year-old houseboy Ren is also on a

mission, racing to fulfill his former master’s dying wish: that Ren

find the man’s finger, lost years ago in an accident, and bury it

with his body. Ren has 49 days to do so, or his master’s soul

will wander the earth forever. As the days tick relentlessly by, a

series of unexplained deaths racks the district, along with

whispers of men who turn into tigers. Ji Lin and Ren’s

increasingly dangerous paths crisscross through lush

plantations, hospital storage rooms, and ghostly dreamscapes.

Yangsze Choo's The Night Tiger pulls us into a world of

servants and masters, age-old superstition and modern

idealism, sibling rivalry and forbidden love. But anchoring this

dazzling, propulsive novel is the intimate coming-of-age of a

child and a young woman, each searching for their place in a

society that would rather they stay invisible. "A work of

incredible beauty... Astoundingly captivating and striking... A

transcendent story of courage and connection." —Booklist

(starred review)

When young Ming travels with his father to Qufu, the hometown

of Confucius, little does he know that he will meet the famous

philosopher himself! Ming and his father are in China's Qufu,

Shandong Province, where the great sage Confucius was born

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over 2,500 years ago. While Ming's father studies the stunning historic architecture, Ming's attention is drawn to a game of Chinese checkers set up in a gazebo. As soon as he touches the checkers, he finds himself magically transported back in time to ancient Qufu. There he meets Confucius and his students, and explores with them the principles established by the renowned teacher, which remain so important in China today.

This beautifully illustrated multicultural children's book follows Ming as he discovers the birth of Kung Fu. After Xiao Ming participates in a martial arts exercise at school, his parents take him on a trip to the Shaolin Temple—the birth-place of kung fu—in the central Henan Province of China. The temple is situated in the forests of Shaoshi Mountain, one of the seven mountains of Song Mountains. With a history of over 1,500 years, the grand Shaolin Temple has precious stone-carvings in its many buildings. At the Warrior Monks School (Wuseng Yuan), he sees monks practicing kung fu and jumps in to learn some martial arts skills. He then goes into a stone cave by mistake and meets a monk who turns out to be Bodhidharma, the founder of Zen Buddhism, according to legend.

Bodhidharma takes him onto the mountain to see peach flowers, small birds and big trees. He tells Ming how the Shaolin Temple became the birthplace of Zen in Buddhism.

Our hardcover and paperback digest editions of THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA are now graced with new jacket and cover art by 2-time Caldecott medalist David Wiesner.

The Tale of Despereaux

The Adventure of the Illustrious Client (Fantasy and Horror Classics)

An Epic Cat Adventure

A Story in English and Chinese

Forbidden Planet

More Adventure Travel - 11 more stories of worldwide

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adventure to further inspire you towards your own travel goals

From Martha Washington to Michelle Obama, 46 illustrations portray the nation's First Ladies and official hostesses in this informative coloring book. Many of the First Ladies are depicted in their inaugural gowns."

In ancient times under the reign of Yellow Emperor (about 2500 B.C.), people kept records by piling stones and tying knots. One day, Cang Jie, a historical official who tied knots to keep records under Yellow Emperor, unexpectedly made a big mistake. Feeling very guilty, he was determined to find out a better way for keeping records. He went back to his hometown to think it over for many days and nights. Inspired by the footprints of animals, he began to carefully observe the sun, moon, stars, mountains, rivers, lakes, seas, as well as birds and animals. At the same time, he traveled around collecting signs created by fishermen, farmers, hunters and soldiers. In the end, he succeeded in creating Chinese characters, which are still widely used today. In this multicultural children's story, kids will find out that there is a story behind every Chinese character. Children will also learn about basic Chinese characters and how to make them.

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

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the agonies of footbinding, learn nu shu, the famed secret women's writing, and make a very special friend, Snow Flower. But a bitter reversal of fortune is about to change everything.

The novel is an extended account of the legendary pilgrimage of the Tang dynasty Buddhist monk Xuanzang who traveled to the "Western Regions", that is, India, to obtain sacred texts and returned after many trials and much suffering. It retains the broad outline of Xuanzang's own account, Great Tang Records on the Western Regions, but the Ming dynasty novel adds elements from folk tales and the author's invention, that is, that the Buddha gave this task to the monk and provided him with three protectors who agree to help him as an atonement for their sins. These disciples are Sun Wukong, Zhu Bajie, and Sha Wujing, together with a dragon prince who acts as Xuanzang's steed, a white horse. Journey to the West has strong roots in Chinese folk religion, Chinese mythology, Taoist and Buddhist philosophy, and the pantheon of Taoist immortals and Buddhist bodhisattvas are still reflective of some Chinese religious attitudes today. Enduringly popular, the tale is at once a comic adventure story, a spring of spiritual insight, and an extended allegory in which the group of pilgrims journeys towards enlightenment which each of them can achieve only with the help of all of the others.

A Zen Buddhist Tale in English and Chinese

Eunuchs in the Ming Dynasty, The

Chambers: The Spirit Warrior

The Once and Future King

Bibliography of Forbidden Books -

Forbidden Bigfoot

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Introduces the world of Roshar through the experiences of a war-weary royal compelled by visions, a highborn youth condemned to military slavery, and a woman who is desperate to save her impoverished house.

Mysterious footprints. Eerie screams. For centuries, if not longer, stunned witnesses have reported face-to-face encounters with the bizarre beasts responsible for mystifying us with the tantalizing evidence they leave behind. Countless books and documentaries have offered up the same explanation, that Bigfoot are nothing more than large, bipedal apes that mainstream science has yet to accept as real. But is this the truth, or merely disinformation? Now, Lisa A. Shiel--author of the acclaimed Backyard Bigfoot--presents the uncensored facts about Bigfoot in a meticulously researched, no-holds-barred exploration of the phenomenon. Forbidden Bigfoot exposes the startling connections between Sasquatch and other unexplained phenomena, from UFOs and fairies to stick signs and crop-circle-like formations. Shiel strips away the hype about claims of Bigfoot DNA evidence, touted as the ultimate proof, and explores what genetics and the fossil record can really tell us about these elusive creatures. What are the facts? Grab a copy of Forbidden Bigfoot today to find out! ----- Originally published as three e-books, this complete version of Forbidden Bigfoot includes updated information and new illustrations, all presented in full color. ++++++ "[Shiel] offers us her very best, which is nothing less than a first-class study of the anomalous side of Bigfoot. ... [She]

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pulls no punches when she notes the spectacular failure of the [Bigfoot research] community to prove its point that the North American Bigfoot are simply unidentified and unclassifiedapes...be prepared for a wild ride into the world of Bigfoot that so many steer clear of. Their loss can be your gain - if you are prepared to think, and look, outside of the Bigfoot box." -- Nick Redfern, Mysterious Universe "Very highly recommended reading, particularly for non-specialist general readers with an interest in cryptozoological and related studies." --Julie Summers, Midwest Book Review "[This book] is an excellent read! ... [It] will be a classic book in BF world." -- Regan Lee, Frame 352: The Stranger Side of Bigfoot

On a visit to the Forbidden City, Xiao Ming became separated from his father. On his search, he went down stairs and crossed a pathway that led him out at the other end. Surprise! He found himself in the Qing Dynasty! Xiao Ming met some Imperial Bodyguards who took him to the Little Emperor. Xiao Ming described the air planes and cars in the future to the Little Emperor, who also showed Xiao Ming his treasures. The most special piece was a bronze dragon, which suddenly carried the Little Emperor and Xiao Ming up into the sky. They had a panoramic view of the entire Forbidden City. Then Xiao Ming fell from the tail of the dragon into the city moat, which brought him back to the real world and reunites him with his anxious father.

When three cats from the big city found life difficult. They ventured out to find a paradise where all of them

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could live like kings without constantly being hungry and searching garbage in alleys for food. But little did they know that this journey to find their paradise would put them on a road filled with epic adventures. Join the three Ally Cat allies as they Journey to find their cat paradise.

Fragile Cargo

Secret Voyages to the New World

Journey to the West

Do Not Say We Have Nothing: A Novel

The Ming Dynasty in Decline

An expedition to the desert planet of Altair-4 finds that the survivors of a lost spaceship have discovered a power source that could control the universe

The world's most famous travelling reporter heads for Russia. Accompanied by his dog Snowy, Tintin leaves Brussels to go undercover in Soviet Russia. His attempts to research his story are put to the test by the Bolsheviks and Moscow's secret police .

. . . Join the most iconic character in comics as he embarks on an extraordinary adventure spanning historical and political events, and thrilling mysteries. Still selling over 100,000 copies every year in the UK and having been adapted for the silver screen by Steven Spielberg and Peter

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Jackson in 2011. The Adventures of Tintin continue to charm more than 80 years after they first found their way into publication. Since then an estimated 230 million copies have been sold, proving that comic books have the same power to entertain children and adults in the 21st century as they did in the early 20th. Tintin in the Land of the Soviets remains the only adventure not to have had its artwork coloured.

With dozens of stunning photographs and insightful commentary, this China travel pictorial is a colorful guide to this fascinating country. China is one of the world's most fascinating destinations, boasting awe-inspiring sights and attractions. From the sheer immensity of the Great Wall of China, to the skyscrapers that dominate the skylines of Beijing and Shanghai, to the cragged peaks and green fields of Guilin, China continues to fascinate visitors and residents alike. If you have yet to visit this fabled country, the stunning photographs in this book will whet your appetite. If you're a seasoned traveler to China, the images

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will kindle fresh plans for further adventures to the Middle Kingdom. Thoroughly modern yet possessing a rich heritage that dates back several millennia, here is an unforgettable visual record of one of the world's greatest civilizations.

A prince from the dark side shows up at my doorstep with one question. Will I be his bride? I have many, many reasons to say no. The prince comes from a land of barbarians. I will never again see the sun. It is a certain death sentence. At first, it seems that I have a choice. But I discover that if I say no, Thousands will die. All of those lives hang on my answer to that one simple question. Will I say yes or will I say no?

Children of the World

BIG SIZE SURPRISE

Being the Story of a Mouse, a Princess,
Some Soup, and a Spool of Thread

One Crazy Summer

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A Terracotta Army General 'Souvenir'
comes alive and swoops Ming away!

The best introduction to multiethnic New
World Discovery before Columbus. Nine true

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adventures featuring Hatshepsut, King Solomon, Xu Fu, Marco Polo, Nicholas of Lynn, Zheng He, Martin Behaim, Amerigo Vespucci, King Arthur, Queen Elizabeth, and Francis Drake. Includes first maize (Indian corn) in Egypt, early maps of America before Columbus, Roman Florida, Albertin di Virga's 1414 map of Peru and North America, ancient artifacts and faces of Old World voyagers in Mexico and Peru, and Francis Drake's amazing "clock map." Excellent coffee-table book; great for adults and young readers. Beautifully illustrated; excellent index and bibliography. A fun read that is also packed with new information about secret voyages, forbidden lands, and enigmas the pros have missed.

Recounts the author's adventures in the mountains of Tibet and the forbidden city of Lhasa, up Mount Everest with the 1984 China-Everest Expedition, and then across China to the wild plains of Mongolia in the far north

Winner of the Scotiabank Giller Prize and the Governor General's Literary Award // Finalist for the Man Booker Prize and the Baileys Women's Prize for Fiction "A powerfully expansive novel...Thien writes with the mastery of a conductor." –New York Times Book Review "In a single year,

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my father left us twice. The first time, to end his marriage, and the second, when he took his own life. I was ten years old.” Master storyteller Madeleine Thien takes us inside an extended family in China, showing us the lives of two successive generations—those who lived through Mao’s Cultural Revolution and their children, who became the students protesting in Tiananmen Square. At the center of this epic story are two young women, Marie and Ai-Ming. Through their relationship Marie strives to piece together the tale of her fractured family in present-day Vancouver, seeking answers in the fragile layers of their collective story. Her quest will unveil how Kai, her enigmatic father, a talented pianist, and Ai-Ming’s father, the shy and brilliant composer, Sparrow, along with the violin prodigy Zhuli were forced to reimagine their artistic and private selves during China’s political campaigns and how their fates reverberate through the years with lasting consequences. With maturity and sophistication, humor and beauty, Thien has crafted a novel that is at once intimate and grandly political, rooted in the details of life inside China yet transcendent in its universality.

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Across China

Snow Flower and the Secret Fan

The Long Way to a Small, Angry Planet

Chinese Opera Costumes Paper Dolls

Ming's adventure with Confucius in Qufu

Ming's Adventure with the Terracotta Army

A new warrior, not bound by human form has

traveled to this new world and hunts one thing:

Cage. Barely escaping China with their lives, Cage

and Mia arrive in America early in the nineteenth

century. War is raging, as the US military, settlers

and native Indians battle the land they seek to call

their own. It seems to come alive at times, the

phenomena a mystery, but the outcome

indisputable: the warrior carries with him a darkness

and the ability to attack and control all in his way. To

prevail in this time, Cage draws upon his martial arts

training to unlock a source of power so incredible he

has to die to attain it. Yet even as Cage races to find

answers, subduing his adversaries and outwitting

conspirators, Mia is increasingly drawn to use her

skills to achieve her personal interests, which include

a newfound love. Separated then reunited, the

siblings' individual journeys diverge, allowing the evil

to fill the void between them. Intent on reclaiming his

sister and preserve innocent lives, Cage must face

the dark warrior in a realm where neither of them are

fighting in their own bodies. The question will be; if

you die when in another form, is it forever?

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In this colorfully illustrated multicultural children's book a little boy and his father get lost on a visit to the Great Wall! After Ming's exciting adventures in the Forbidden City, Ming and his father travel to the Great Wall to learn more about the creation of the longest structure ever build by humans. On their way, they take a wrong turn, leading to a great adventure as Ming and his father get to tour the wall and encounter all sorts of important figures from history and literature! The patron saint of the Great Wall shows Ming all the important passes and Ming even gets to meet the very emperor who had the Great Wall built! But when the emperor runs into a tricky situation at the beacon tower, it's up to Ming and some important information to save the day. Children will love to travel the wall with Ming as this delightful adventure brings to life the Great Wall and how it has influenced China over its 2000-year life span.

The Kidds - treasure hunting family extraordinare - are heading to China, on a journey that will lead them beyond the Great Wall and into the underbelly of Berlin. Bick and Beck Kidd are desperately trying to secure the ancient Chinese artefact that will buy their mother's freedom from renegade pirates. But when the kidnappers force them to locate an even greater treasure - priceless paintings stolen by Nazis, the Kidds must rely on their own cunning and experience to outwit the criminals, all while their

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mom's life is on the line.

LONGLISTED FOR THE BAILEY'S WOMEN'S

PRIZE FOR FICTION 'A quietly profound, humane tour de force' Guardian The beloved debut novel that will restore your faith in humanity #SmallAngryPlanet

When Rosemary Harper joins the crew of the Wayfarer, she isn't expecting much. The ship, which has seen better days, offers her everything she could possibly want: a small, quiet spot to call home for a while, adventure in far-off corners of the galaxy, and distance from her troubled past. But Rosemary gets more than she bargained for with the Wayfarer. The crew is a mishmash of species and personalities, from Sissix, the friendly reptilian pilot, to Kizzy and Jenks, the constantly sparring engineers who keep the ship running. Life on board is chaotic, but more or less peaceful - exactly what Rosemary wants. Until the crew are offered the job of a lifetime: the chance to build a hyperspace tunnel to a distant planet. They'll earn enough money to live comfortably for years... if they survive the long trip through war-torn interstellar space without endangering any of the fragile alliances that keep the galaxy peaceful. But Rosemary isn't the only person on board with secrets to hide, and the crew will soon discover that space may be vast, but spaceships are very small indeed. PRAISE FOR THE WAYFARERS 'Never less than deeply involving' DAILY MAIL 'Explores the quieter side of sci-fi while still wowing

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us with daring leaps of imagination' iBOOKS 'So much fun to read' HEAT 'Chambers is simply an exceptional talent, quietly and beautifully redefining the space opera' TOR.COM 'The most fun that I've had with a novel in a long, long time' iO9

The Night Tiger

Cang Jie, The Inventor of Chinese Characters
Brothers

Fashions of the First Ladies

The Moon Dragon (The Secrets of Droon #26)

God of the Sun

Creates a portrait of the world and culture of late imperial China by examining the lives of seven prominent officials and members of the Ming ruling class

Izzy, a young American Irish dancer, is a fun girl but just a little bit bossy. Her twin brother, Joe, loves soccer and aggravating Izzy. Together they are magically whisked away to 18th-century Ireland during the time of the culture crushing Penal Laws. There they hide from soldiers, climb into a castle, and befriend a quirky and rebellious Dance Master whose job it is to keep the culture alive. When soldiers confront the Dance Master the twins must get past their annoyance with each other to work cleverly and together in order to save him. But even if they can do that, will they be able to return home to their 21st-century family and friends? "Sound the Warning" is not only a story about survival in an

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oppressed country, but it is also a story of how family loyalty and a little bit of Irish magic can overcome many problems.

A brave mouse, a covetous rat, a wishful serving girl, and a princess named Pea come together in Kate DiCamillo's Newbery Medal-winning tale. Welcome to the story of Despereaux Tilling, a mouse who is in love with music, stories, and a princess named Pea. It is also the story of a rat called Roscuro, who lives in the darkness and covets a world filled with light. And it is the story of Miggery Sow, a slow-witted serving girl who harbors a simple, impossible wish. These three characters are about to embark on a journey that will lead them down into a horrible dungeon, up into a glittering castle, and, ultimately, into each other's lives. What happens then? As Kate DiCamillo would say: Reader, it is your destiny to find out. With black-and-white illustrations and a refreshed cover by Timothy Basil Ering.

Having arrived in San Francisco from China to work in his brother's store, Ming is lonely until an Irish boy befriends him.

Tintin in the Land of the Soviets

She Who Became the Sun

Ming's Kung Fu Adventure in the Shaolin Temple

Book One of the Stormlight Archive

The Magician's Nephew

China: A Travel Adventure

Lambda Literary Award Finalist! Two-

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time Hugo Award Finalist! Locus Award Finalist! "Magnificent in every way."—Samantha Shannon, author of The Priory of the Orange Tree "A dazzling new world of fate, war, love and betrayal."—Zen Cho, author of Black Water Sister She Who Became the Sun reimagines the rise to power of the Ming Dynasty's founding emperor. To possess the Mandate of Heaven, the female monk Zhu will do anything "I refuse to be nothing..." In a famine-stricken village on a dusty yellow plain, two children are given two fates. A boy, greatness. A girl, nothingness... In 1345, China lies under harsh Mongol rule. For the starving peasants of the Central Plains, greatness is something found only in stories. When the Zhu family's eighth-born son, Zhu Chongba, is given a fate of greatness, everyone is mystified as to how it will come to pass. The fate of nothingness received by the family's clever and capable second daughter, on the other hand, is only as expected. When a bandit attack orphans the two children, though, it is Zhu Chongba who succumbs to despair and

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dies. Desperate to escape her own fated death, the girl uses her brother's identity to enter a monastery as a young male novice. There, propelled by her burning desire to survive, Zhu learns she is capable of doing whatever it takes, no matter how callous, to stay hidden from her fate. After her sanctuary is destroyed for supporting the rebellion against Mongol rule, Zhu takes the chance to claim another future altogether: her brother's abandoned greatness. At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

Dress two female figures in a formal court dress of the Ashikaga period (1338-1573), including kimonos with floral designs, a traditional Japanese bridal dress, modern formal robes. 16 full-color plates of costumes.

In this final volume of the 1877 work that established him as England's leading authority on pornography, Henry Spencer Ashbee describes scores of "curious, uncommon and erotic books" that were banned or otherwise prohibited from legitimate sale during

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the Victorian era. Included in this volume are such "gentlemen only" titles as Intrigues and Confessions of a Ballet Girl, The Pleasures of Kissing and Being Kissed, and the infamous Memoirs of a Woman of Pleasure. This catalog of mostly forgotten works is an invaluable—and highly entertaining—resource for bibliophiles, students of erotica, and collectors of Victoriana. British book collector, travel writer, and bibliographer HENRY SPENCER ASHBEE (1834–1900), aka Pisanus Fraxi, is thought by some to have authored the notorious Victorian sexual memoir My Secret Life.

This beautifully illustrated multicultural children's book tells a story about China's most famous archeological site—the terracotta soldiers of Xi'an. When a special exhibition of terracotta warriors comes to town, Ming and his mother go to see them at the museum. To remember this exciting event, Ming's mother buys him a little figurine of a General to keep in his room at home. But at midnight, Ming wakes up and finds the General figurine is alive and he has a copper

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carriage ready to take Ming to his home in Emperor Qin Shi Huang's Tomb in Xi'an, China. In this mysterious underground world over 2,000 years old, Ming meets the General's army of terracotta warriors. Read and find out more about Ming's adventures with his new friends!

Secret of the Forbidden City

??

a story in English and Chinese

1587, a Year of No Significance

Exposing the Controversial Truth about Sasquatch, Stick Signs, UFOs, Human Origins, and the Strange Phenomena in Our Own Backyards

The Wartime Race to Save the Treasures of the Forbidden City

This book is the first on Chinese eunuchs in English and presents a comprehensive picture of the role that they played in the Ming dynasty, 1368-1644. Extracted from a wide range of primary and secondary source material, the author provides significant and interesting information about court politics, espionage and internal security, military and foreign affairs, tax and tribute collection, the operation of imperial monopolies, judiciary review, the layout of the palace complex, the

Grand Canal, and much more. The eunuchs are shown to be not just a minor adjunct to a government of civil servants and military officers, but a fully developed third branch of the Ming administration that participated in all of the most essential matters of the dynasty. The veil of condemnation and jealousy imposed on eunuchs by the compilers of official history is pulled away to reveal a richly textured tapestry. Eunuchs are portrayed in a balanced manner that gives due consideration to able and faithful service along with the inept, the lurid, and the iniquitous.

"The Adventure of the Illustrious Client", one of the 56 Sherlock Holmes short stories written by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, first published in 1927 it is one of 12 stories in the cycle collected as The Case Book of Sherlock Holmes. Sir James Damery comes to see Holmes and Watson about his illustrious client's problem. It would seem that old General de Merville's young daughter Violet has fallen madly in love with the roguish and sadistic Austrian Baron Adelbert Gruner. The victim was his last wife, of whose murder he was acquitted owing to a legal technicality and a witness's untimely death.

A hidden door. A magical staircase. Discover

the world of Droon! There's no place like home! Eric and his friends have finally restored the Rainbow Stairs, but that was the easy part. Now Gethwing is loose in the Upper World, and the Moon Dragon is causing big trouble. Eric, Julie, and Neal have to protect their town, but they're up against mysterious creatures, strangely-behaving parents, and powerful magic. Can the kids stop Gethwing before he destroys the Upper World -- for good?