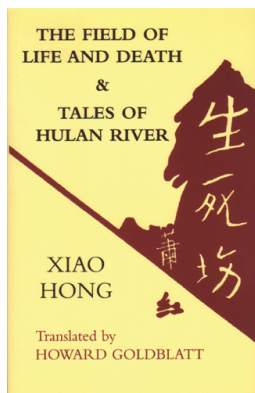


THE FIELD OF LIFE AND DEATH & TALES OF HULAN RIVER

Author: Xiao Hong

Translator: Howard Goldblatt

Categories: Novellas, Chinese Literature



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The Field of Life and Death is an unflinching collection of vignettes set in the rural China in which Xiao Hong grew up. It relives the pain of Japanese imperialism, and provides a portrayal of people brutalized by poverty and war. Also included in this collection is *Tales of Hulan River* (1940), Xiao Hong's famous wryly humorous and bleakly poignant account of another village and the always difficult, sometimes brief lives of its citizens. This revised version of the notable translations by Howard Goldblatt features Lu Xun's original preface (in translation), a new translator's preface, and a revised introduction by Goldblatt.

"Marvelously cinematic ... explains each sight and sound as if it were an ideograph." *The New Yorker*

"Extraordinary... In a few broad strokes, Xiao Hong makes us see how characters arrive at the end of their tether – and are pushed beyond it." *Asia Week*

ABOUT THE AUTHOR Xiao Hong's was born in 1911, to a wealthy family who allowed her to be educated. Her works are often bittersweet as she weaves minor details into a tapestry of nostalgia for hometown and tender moments of love, yet her melancholy writing is fully aware of the pains of the past. She died in 1942, at the age of thirty, and was nearly forgotten by history. Howard Goldblatt's translations have brought her to the West for the first time and revived her works in China.

ABOUT THE TRANSLATOR Howard Goldblatt has translated almost fifty works from more than twenty individual authors, including multiple novels by Nobel Prize winner Mo Yan. He is respected by academics and enjoyed by readers because of his ability to convey the vitality of the original language materials. He lives and works in South Bend, Indiana with his wife and co-translator, Sylvia Lin.

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