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The True Story Of Ah Q (Bilingual Series On Modern Chinese Literature)



Synopsis

A towering figure in the literary history of twentieth-century China, Lu Xun has exerted immense and continuous influence through his short stories, which remain today as powerful as they were first written. While echoes of these stories can still be heard in the fictional works from both sides of the Taiwan Strait in the eighties and nineties, "The True Story of Ah Q" has long become an intrinsic part of the Chinese vocabulary. Like many Chinese intellectuals searching for a solution to China's problems, Lu Xun went to Japan to study medicine, a choice he later abandoned for a career in writing, which he considered to be a far more effective weapon to save China. A prolific author of pungent and "dagger-like" essays, Lu Xun is also a tireless translator of Western critical and literary works. His fictional works have been translated into more than twenty languages.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars See all reviews (5 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

I bought this book in the hopes of improving my Chinese comprehension while getting to know one of the more important writers of twentieth century China. Unfortunately I again discovered (and I should have known this from previous experiences, so I'm not complaining, or at least I'm pretending not to complain) how slow and laborious it is to look up Chinese characters in a dictionary when the romanized (pinyin) form is not given. So after the first sentence of the Introduction I gave up trying to read it in Chinese and just read it in English, which was a very worthwhile and entertaining experience. The book also has a good preface in English describing the

life and cultural/historical context of the author. But the book (and the entire series "Bilingual Series on Modern Chinese Literature", assuming that they're all like this) would be immeasurably improved for the novice reader of Chinese if 1) the romanized versions of the characters were included; and/or 2) a glossary of some of the less common characters was appended, as is done in the "Hispanic Literature" bilingual series for unfamiliar Spanish words. Otherwise probably the best thing would be to read Chinese works of literature on the best-known tablet computer whose name I shall not mention, using an available app which includes the ability to click on a character and get the dictionary entry for it. I'm too cheap to buy it, I'd rather just complain.:)

The story was a bit hard to grasp because I am not familiar with the history and cultural background of China back then. However, reading up some reviews about the story really helped. I recommend watching the film on youtube after reading the book, it really helps! It was also fun reading the Chinese next to it. A great way to learn!

A must-see work. The most well-known short works in China by the greatest writer Mr. Lu Xun in China's history. Try to ask any people from mainland China, I am sure 99% of them have read this story of Ah-Q. Ah-Q is the most famous character in China. This short novel reflects the status of the whole society in early 20th century, which was in the end of the last feudalistic Dynasty in China.

Every thing was all around "PERFECT". Yes, I would buy from this seller again.

Came in great condition and did not disappoint

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