

BOOKS FROM TAIWAN

ASIAN EDITION



BOOKS FROM TAIWAN

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EDITOR'S PREFACE

Since its launch in 2014, Books from Taiwan has introduced numerous exciting titles to the world, with many of Taiwan's most notable writers making an appearance within its pages. But different countries have very different publishing markets, and it's impossible for one publication to cater to the literary tastes of them all. A US bestseller isn't guaranteed to have the same kind of impact in South Korea; a megahit in Thailand won't necessarily make a splash in Europe.

Which is why we're launching the *Books from Taiwan: Asian Edition*, to turn the spotlight on the kind of titles more likely to appeal to readers in the nations neighboring Taiwan. Here you'll find self-help books, parenting manuals, cultural compendiums, travel guides, and genre fiction. If you've ever wanted to learn to truly appreciate wine, or pinpoint logical fallacies, or understand classical music, you've come to the right place. Ever wondered about the significance of the decorations in Taiwanese temples, or what emotional blackmail really entails, or what it's like to talk to ghosts? The answers are here. Or if you prefer to lose yourself in a good story, you can choose from spine-tingling thrillers, fantastical page-turners, and melancholy tales of thwarted romance.

This new edition is a very welcome opportunity to showcase the breadth of the publishing scene in Taiwan today. We're confident every reader will find something to enjoy here, and there are samples of all these books available to peruse at <http://booksfromtaiwan.tw/index.php>. Please don't hesitate to get in touch with comments and suggestions at booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com.



Dave Haysom
Editor-in-Chief

TRANSLATION GRANT PROGRAM

Books from Taiwan supports the translation of Taiwanese literature into foreign languages with the Translation Grant Program, administered by The Ministry of Culture of Taiwan. The grant is to encourage the publication of translations of Taiwan's literature, including fiction, non-fiction, picture books and comics, and help Taiwan's publishing industry to explore non-Chinese international markets.

- Applicant Eligibility: Foreign publishers (legal persons) legally registered in accordance with the laws and regulations of their respective countries, or foreign natural persons engaged in translation.
- Conditions:
 1. Works translated shall be original works (including fiction, non-fiction, picture books and comics) by Taiwanese writers (R.O.C. nationality) in traditional Chinese characters.
 2. Priority is given to works to be translated and published for the first time in a non-Chinese language market.
 3. Applicants are not limited to submitting only one project for funding in each application year; however, the same applicant can only receive funding for up to three projects in any given round of applications.
 4. Projects receiving funding shall have already obtained authorization for translation, and be published within two years starting from the year after application year (published before the end of October).
- Funding Items and Amount
 1. The subsidy includes a licensing fee for the rights holder of original work, a translation fee and a production fee.
 2. The maximum funding available for any given project is NT\$ 500,000 (including income tax and remittance charges).
- Application Period: From September 1 to September 30 every year.
- Announcement of successful applications: December every year.
- Application Method: Please apply via the online application system (http://booksfromtaiwan.tw/grant_en.php) after reading through the Translation Grant Application Guidelines (available online).

For full details of the Translation Grant Program, please visit

http://booksfromtaiwan.tw/grant_en.php

Or contact: books@moc.gov.tw

THE PIVOT SOUTH TRANSLATION AND PUBLISHING PROGRAM

The Ministry of Culture has formulated these guidelines to encourage the publication of translations of Taiwan's literature, in the territories of South Asia, Southeast Asia and Australasia (hereinafter referred to as the Pivot South nations), as well as to fund exchange trips for publishers and the publication of original titles that deal with the cultures of Taiwan and the Pivot South nations, as well as the topic of cultural exchange between them.

South Asia, Southeast Asia and Australasia will be taken to mean: Cambodia, the Philippines, Laos, Malaysia, Brunei, Indonesia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Pakistan, Bangladesh, India, Bhutan, Australia and New Zealand.

The program is split into three different strands, which are:

1. Translation and Publication Grant Program
2. Publisher Exchange Program
3. Original Book Program

- Applicant Eligibility:
 1. Citizens of the Republic of China (Taiwan) or civic organizations and legal persons registered in accordance with the laws and regulations of the Republic of China (Taiwan).
 2. Citizens of the aforementioned Pivot South nations or civic organizations and legal persons registered in accordance with the laws and regulations of their respected country.
- Funding Items and Amount
 1. Translation and Publishing Grant Program: The maximum funding available for any given project is NT\$ 500,000 (including income tax and remittance charges).
 2. Publisher Exchange Program: The maximum funding available for any given project is NT\$ 500,000 (including income tax and remittance charges).
 3. Original Book Program: The maximum funding available for any given work is NT\$ 500,000 (including income tax and remittance charges). For a series, the funding will be multiplied by the number of books in the series, but total funding will be limited to NT\$2,000,000 (including income tax and remittance charges).
- Application Period: From September 1 to September 30 every year.
- Application Method: Please apply via the online application system (<https://nspublication.moc.gov.tw/en/>) after reading through the Pivot South Translation and Publishing program application guidelines (available online).
- Announcement of successful applications: December every year.

For full details of the The Pivot South Translation and Publishing Program, please visit:

<https://nspublication.moc.gov.tw/en/>

Or contact books@moc.gov.tw.

SPEAKING TO SPIRITS

靈界的譯者

If *The Sixth Sense* was set in Asia, it would look a lot like the life of the uniquely gifted Sophiyah Liu. Ever since she was little, Sophiyah has been able to see and hear messages from the spirit world. The grown-ups around her would be telling her off for talking nonsense one minute, then begging her for lottery predictions the next. She became a spirit medium while she was still in junior high, offering healing, prayers and exorcism at the local temple after homework and dinner. Her time on the borderline between the mortal realm and spirit world granted her access to the whole spectrum of human suffering and emotion, and in this book she shares what she learned: no matter what ghosts or divinations we turn to, it is the way we act that ultimately determines our fate.

A medium works much like an interpreter, using their own experience and understanding of society to seek out the answers lying beneath the surface. In *Speaking to Spirits*, Sophiyah Liu shares her professional expertise and overturns some of the common myths and misconceptions concerning ghosts, rituals, and magic. Is the mortal realm really overrun with ghosts during the seventh month of the lunar calendar? Do malicious spirits always dress in red? Are you more likely to run into a ghost while travelling? Is it possible to communicate with foreign ghosts? Are there any proven methods for acquiring good luck and avoiding bad? These practical tips will reassure the reader and allow them to understand the world beyond ours.

Resisting any sensationalism of the spirit world, Sophiyah Liu uses real-life examples to illustrate the humor and the absurdity of translation across different planes of existence.



Category: Memoir, Spirituality
Publisher: Sun Color
Date: 4/2017 (first published in 2009)
Rights contact:
booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com
Pages: 248
Length: 110,000 characters (approximately 77,000 words in English)
Material: Sample

“

*The true story behind the hit
HBO Asia series
The Teenage Psychic.
The book that made a
hundred thousand readers
think about ghosts in a whole
new way.*

”

Born Liu Po-Chun, Sophiyah Liu became a convert to Islam after she stopped working as a spirit medium in temples and started to explore the wider world of religion. A keen baseball fan with a background in social work and religious studies, she has worked as an interpreter for the New York Yankees and the Australian national team. After travelling to the States to attend the Jim Evans and Wendstedt schools of umpiring, she was the first Taiwanese woman to become an international baseball umpire. In 2017, Taiwan Public Television Service collaborated with HBO Asia and Singapore's InFocus Asia Broadcasting to produce *The Teenage Psychic*, a coming-of-age tale about a girl who can communicate with spirits. Inspired by Sophiyah Liu's story, it was the first HBO show produced in Taiwan to be broadcast entirely in Chinese (Mandarin and Hokkien), and has been aired in 23 countries around Asia.



SOPHIYAH LIU

索菲亞 (劉柏君)

JAPAN, INSIDE AND OUT

表裏日本

Noodles, manga, movies, cars: it is virtually impossible to isolate ourselves from the Japanese products that have become a ubiquitous part of our world. But how did we get to this point? Tsai Yi-Chu draws on his decades of research into Japanese folklore to plot the trajectory of Japanese society against the axes of history, showing how the customs of crucial eras in history solidified into the traditions that still define contemporary life.

Japan, Inside and Out explores the way Japanese folklore has oscillated between embracing and resisting against outside influences. Take Shintoism, the religious system that revolves around nature for example. Traces of Buddhism are discernible in the architecture of its shrines and the names of its gods, and for a long time there was a syncretic relationship between the two religions.

And then there's Japan's renowned samurai culture. The samurai were once commoners, distinguished only by their martial prowess, before they rose to become a political ruling class in the reign of Toyotomi Hideyoshi. *Japan, Inside and Out* shows how, despite the decline of the samurai in the wake of the Meiji Restoration, the samurai spirit lives on amongst the ordinary people where it first originated.

Blending his personal experience and observations with a depth of scholarship, Tsai Yi-Chu concisely explains complex ideas about history and culture, quenching readers' desire for narrative while stimulating their curiosity towards Japan.



Category: History

Publisher: Walkers

Date: 11/2016

Rights contact:

booksfromtaiwan.rights

@gmail.com

Pages: 256

Length: 94,000 characters

(approximately 66,000 words in English)

Material: Sample

Tsai Yi-Chu has a doctorate in humanities and social sciences from Tsukuba University, where he specialized in folklore; he is now an assistant professor in practical Japanese at Shih Chien University. His other works include *Kyoto's Fluctuations of Fortune*, a guide to the city's seventeen UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Sites.

TSAI YI-CHU 蔡亦竹



“

Conservative but innovative; refined but hectic: does true harmony exist in the clash of cultural extremes? If you want to understand Japan then this book is the ideal place to start.

”

MORE THAN WIN LEARNED FROM

挪威人教我，比競爭力更重要的事

Over the last few years, the world has been gripped with enthusiasm for Scandinavian style in fashion, interior design and food, not to mention their unique outlooks on life. But while everyone knows about the Danes and their *hygge*, Finland's *sisu*, and Swedish *lagom*, the philosophy of life in Norway – the number one country on the UN Human Development Index for the last three years – remains relatively obscure.

When his wife was assigned a diplomatic post in Norway, Lee Hao-Chung migrated there with her – and quickly discovered that the pace of life was very different from the Pacific island he knew. With a reporter's keen eye for detail, he describes his initial struggles to integrate and his interactions with assorted representatives of Norwegian society, bringing these encounters vividly to life with a charming warmth and wit.

When the price of Norwegian paper soared in the twentieth century, the government subsidized the newspaper industry to guarantee diversity of opinion and uphold freedom of speech. They drew up a prison system that revolves around the principles of reeducation and rehabilitation. Norway is a leader in the Gender Inequality Index and Gender Development Index: there are women at the head of each of the seven major political parties, over forty percent of the board members at the country's hundred largest corporations are women, and fathers receive twelve weeks of fully-paid paternity. These are some of the facts Lee considers when he trains his focus on the broader picture of Norwegian life, in an attempt to define the characteristics that make this nation unique.



Category: Humanities

Publisher: On Books

Date: 8/2016

Rights contact:

booksfromtaiwan.rights

@gmail.com

Pages: 272

Length: 85,000 characters

(approximately 60,000 words in English)

Material: Sample

WINNING: WHAT I LIFE IN NORWAY

“

Six years of Norwegian life: the impressions and observations of a Taiwanese reporter and father

”

Lee Hao-Chung worked as a political reporter at *The Journalist* and *United Evening News*, before moving to Norway in 2009 and forging a new writing career in a foreign land. In 2015 he returned to Taiwan, where he is now editorial writer of the online news organization *Up Media*. This is the seventh volume in his series of books on Norway; other titles include *Secrets of the Perfect Scandinavian Husband* and *Nora, If You Grow Up in Norway*.



LEE HAO-CHUNG

李濠仲

INVESTING IN CLASSICAL MUSIC

穩賺不賠零風險！ 基金操盤人帶你投資古典樂

How is the baroque period like a cup of cappuccino? What does *yin* and *yang* have to do with the work of Chopin? And how did Mozart play a part in resolving the Asian financial crisis? This title is a five-part compilation of the best of Hu Keng-Ming's articles and magazine columns on classical music, providing the reader with a unique perspective on the works of composers like Bach, Brahms, Chopin, Debussy, and Vivaldi.

Part one begins by introducing the main historical divisions of classical music – baroque, classical, romantic, and modern – through stories that are packed with information and narrated with panache. Part two takes a geographical approach, exploring the musical histories of different countries and addressing topics such as the connection between impressionism in visual art and in music, and how Tchaikovsky revolutionized the music of ballet scores. In part three we learn stories of music and composers that hinge on supernatural themes of life and death, magic, and monsters; part four offers a pastiche of a gossip column, exposing some of the more salacious tales of the musical world, before part five concludes with some more personal reflections on classical music.

Each of the stories in *Investing in Classical Music* can be enjoyed independently of the others, but the ingenious structure of the book suggests unexpected connections and resonances between them. What's more, every chapter comes with a list of recommended listening – including specific advice on the best orchestra, recording, and edition – to enable newcomers to the field to get the most out of their classical music listening experience.



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@gmail.com
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Material: Sample

TEXT BY

HU KENG-MING

胡耿銘

Hu Keng-Ming has a masters in finance from St. Louis University in the U.S., and now works as a mutual fund manager, as well as editor-in-chief of the classical music journal *Muzik*. An oboist in the Taipei Civic Symphony Orchestra, which he helped found and organize, he is also the author of *The Thirty Greatest Symphonies in the History of Music*.

ILLUSTRATED BY

CHEN YU-LIN

陳又凌

Chen Yu-Lin is a graduate of the Utrecht School of the Arts in Holland, and has been a featured illustrator at the Bologna Children's Book Fair for two years running. Her other works include *What's Up with Mommy?*



“ Let a mutual fund manager guide you into the world of classical music – profit guaranteed! ”

A MASTERCLASS IN LOGICAL FALLACIES

邏輯謬誤鑑識班

Can we assume that someone who doesn't believe in the supernatural is a sceptic? Or that there is no logic to the ranting of the shabbily dressed tramp who rails against politics? Are horoscopes and the predictions of fortune-tellers necessarily nonsense? And is the man who does the housework more likely to be emasculated? This book offers numerous practical examples of logical fallacies – when specious reasoning or flawed thinking prevents us from making impartial decisions – and steers clear of the rigid “if P then Q”-style formulations that characterize most books on the topic.

Every day we find ourselves confronted with rhetoric, online rumors, superstition, advertising, and conversational snares. *A Masterclass in Logical Fallacies* subjects them to detailed analysis and provides useful advice for dealing with them. By following the step-by-step sequence of these twenty-four lessons, the reader will learn to deploy logic, to organize thought, spot errors, tame emotion with reason, and sidestep logical traps.

Chienchi Chi aspires to promote a more philosophical way of living, creating a new means of communication that will empower readers to recognize the logic behind every problem.



Category: Philosophy

Publisher: Azoth

Date: 11/2016

Rights contact:

booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com

Pages: 320

Length: 145,000 characters
(approximately 100,000 words in English)

Material: Sample

“

Disrupting the field of traditional philosophy, this crash-course in practical logic teaches you to think for yourself.

”

Chienchi Chi has a doctorate in philosophy from the State University of New York at Buffalo, and is now a professor in the philosophy department at Huaan University. He also works as a cultural critic, organizes a writing program, and hosts a research room dedicated to logical thinking. Having switched disciplines from the world of science and engineering, he now strives to promote the idea that philosophy is a code to guide the way we lead our lives, and not just an abstruse branch of academia.

CHIENCHIH
CHI
冀劍制



AN ILLUSTRATED TO TAIWANESE

圖解台灣廟宇傳奇故事

The depth of information embodied in the decorations of Taiwan's traditional temples can sometimes seem intimidating – but that shouldn't be a reason for anyone to miss out on the chance to enjoy their exquisite craftsmanship. The walls, roofs, eaves and ridges of temples are layered with meaningful decoration, not to mention the countless statues illustrating famous scenes from legend and literature. Kuo Hsi-Pin, an expert on temple culture, has written an engaging, unpretentious introduction to the most common of these stories, equipping readers with the knowledge to appreciate these traditional forms of art and architecture.

This book divides these tales into ten categories, from the myth of Nüwa patching the sky to the most famous scenes in the *Romance of the Three Kingdoms* and *Journey to the West*; from the sea goddess Mazu to the enlightenment of Buddha. The stories are paired with attractive images, labelled to show the temple location, the names of the craftsmen, and the relevant historical era. The biographies of these craftsmen are also threaded through the chapters, opening up a whole new perspective on their art.

In an era when traditional arts are in decline, Kuo Hsi-Pin's labor of love offers a unique glimpse into a world of gods, demons, dragons, phoenixes and qilins, chronicling the masterpieces of craftsmen whose achievements are all too easily forgotten today.



Category: Architecture

Publisher: Morning Star

Date: 6/2016

Rights contact:

booksfromtaiwan.rights
@gmail.com

Pages: 304

Length: 126,000 characters
(approximately 88,000 words in
English)

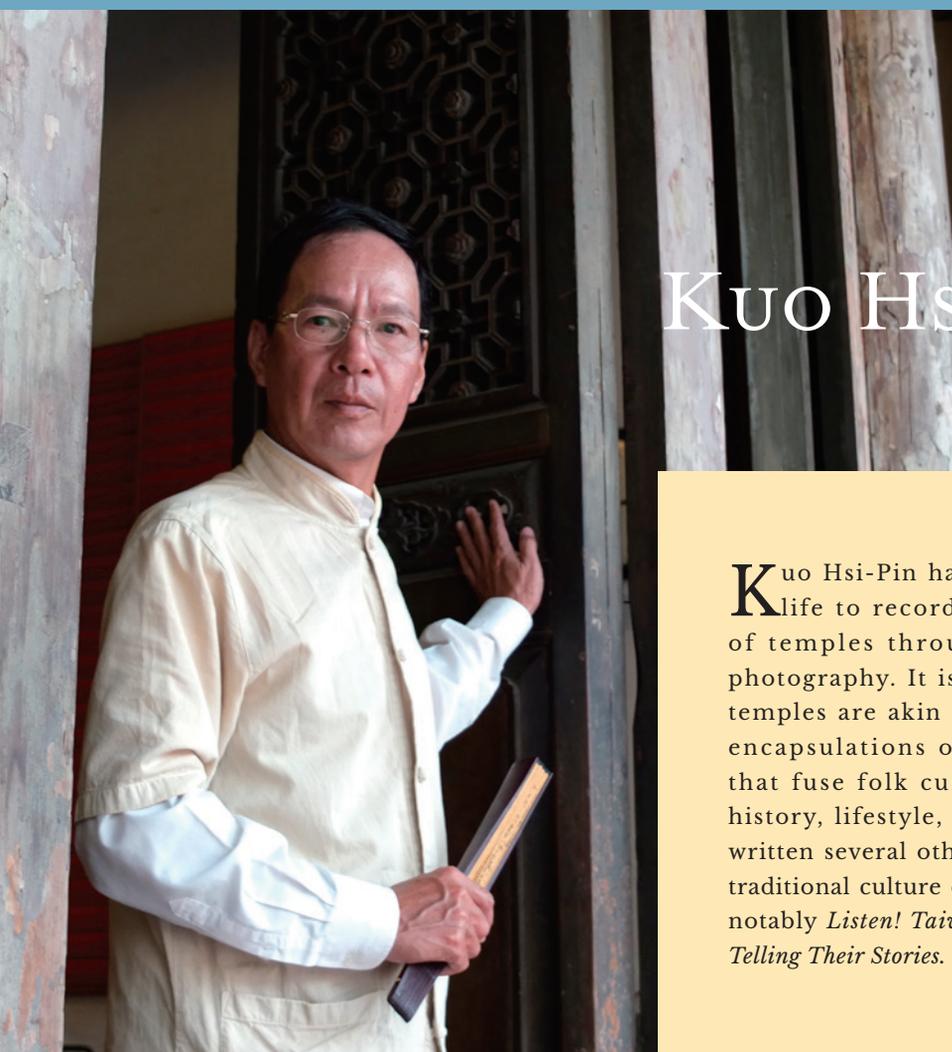
Material: Sample

D GUIDE TEMPLES

“

*124 myths and 300 illustrations
to unlock the secrets of traditional temple art*

”



KUO HSI-PIN
郭喜斌

Kuo Hsi-Pin has dedicated his life to recording the stories of temples through words and photography. It is his belief that temples are akin to art galleries, encapsulations of local culture that fuse folk customs, culture, history, lifestyle, and art. He has written several other books on the traditional culture of temples, most notably *Listen! Taiwan's Temples Are Telling Their Stories*.

NO PERFECT PARENTS

世上沒有理想的父母

Many parents regard themselves as mirrors reflecting their children. When the child disappoints, they blame themselves. Or else they set themselves unreasonably high standards, believing that if they can embody perfection then their child will not err. Yet in a world that is changing around us so quickly, with such abrupt shifts taking place in society, many parents find it difficult to adapt – let alone teaching their children to adapt.

This book has a message for these parents: don't be so hard on yourselves. Parents must be imperfect if they are to withstand the many inevitable bumps and jolts on the road to maturity.

Lo I-Chun draws on her experience with her own daughter, which taught her that a back-and-forth dialogue is far more important than one-way instruction, and granted her insight into the most common flashpoints of parent-child conflict. She suggests the kind of question that will encourage the child to voice their innermost thoughts, thus allowing you to understand the motives that lie behind their action, and to help them in the process of shaping their view of the world. Conflict itself needs not be a problem, if effective communication can lead to resolution.

After spending a career handling media and PR, Lo I-Chun has now forged a new method of communication between parent and child. This book was built out of her conversations with her daughter, supplemented with her reflections on the problem of childrearing, in the hope that readers would come to see the communicative logic underpinning their dialogue.



Category: Parenting

Publisher: Aquarius

Date: 10/2016

Rights contact:

booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com

Pages: 272

Length: 70,000 characters
(approximately 49,000 words in English)

Material: Sample

“

*A book offering solutions
for perplexed mothers and fathers*

”

Lo I-Chun was responsible for marketing PR and media planning for companies including Ogilvy, Sanlih E-Television and 3M, until she left her job behind three years ago to focus on enjoying a life as a mother and starting a new career in writing and lecturing. She is also the author of *Speculative Conversations Between Hedgehog Mama and Pangolin Daughter*, and *Saying No is Where Education Begins*.

LO I-CHUN

羅怡君



RAISING KIDS IN THE SWIPE-HAPPY ERA

滑世代的幸福教養課

According to Wang Wen-Hua, a writer who has spent many years at the pedagogical frontline, being present is the most important thing a parent can do for their child – especially now we live in a “swipe-happy era” of ubiquitous screens. Parents need to learn along with their children how to treat our electronics as tools that can assist us in life, not control us – or be deployed as a means of control. In doing so we can help children to take responsibility for themselves, to foster a positive attitude through the formation of positive habits, and to establish powers of self-awareness and empathy. By involving them in life management and sharing the burdens of domesticity, we can help them develop the ability to solve problems.

Wang Wen-Hua has a knack for interpreting the language of children. In *Raising Kids in the Swipe-Happy Era* he presents many conversations between parent and child, in a brisk, readable style, encouraging us to reassess this most intimate of family bonds. These 66 illuminating case studies are organized around ten of the most common intergenerational problems of the digital age, and every chapter concludes with a list of key points to help the reader quickly grasp the main ideas.



Category: Parenting
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(approximately 49,000 words in English)
Material: Sample

WANG WEN-HUA

王文華

Wang Wen-Hua has a masters from the Institute of Children's Literature at Taitung University, and is now an elementary school teacher as well as the renowned author of almost a hundred bestselling books for children. With combined sales of over 200,000 copies, his works include the Golden Tripod Award winning *First Chair Cellist* and *School of Possibility's Mission to Love the Earth*.



“ 66 childrearing strategies for life in the digital era ”

SWIRL YOUR WINE GLASS

搖晃你的紅酒杯

The scope and complexity of the wine world can make it seem an impenetrable place to the outsider, and many of the commercial books on the topic tend to be overly specialized and difficult to digest. *Swirl Your Wine Glass* is different. The illustrations throughout the book serve as starting points for a thorough analysis of every aspect of the wine world, providing practical advice that will be helpful to beginners and connoisseurs alike.

Cynthia Lee begins by using wine bottle labels as a way of introducing the classification systems of various different countries, enabling the reader to pinpoint their own particular palate and arming them with the knowledge they need to make the right choice at the supermarket wine rack. The book then introduces the five essentials of wine: winemaking process, tincture, nose, sweetness, and place of origin. The book is also threaded with useful tip boxes, offering suggestions on topics like the terminology used to describe the taste of wine. Other helpful guides include wine glass shape, wine pairing, reading a restaurant wine list, and the secrets of sobering up.

Swirl Your Wine Glass provides a complete foundation in the understanding of wine, complementing methodically arranged information with ingenious illustrations.



Category: Lifestyle

Publisher: Cross-border

Date: 4/2017

Rights contact:

booksfromtaiwan.rights
@gmail.com

Pages: 224

Length: 60,000 characters
(approximately 42,000 words in
English)

Material: Sample

“

Packed with exquisite illustrations and comprehensive analysis, this is a reference book that every wine lover should keep close to hand.

”

CYNTHIA LEE

劉舫樺



A specialist in winery business administration, Cynthia Lee was the first Taiwanese-Australian woman to receive a WSET Advanced certificate in wine tasting. The produce of her winery in Australia has been selected for use on first-class flights by China Airlines.

TAIWAN MUSEUM TRAIL: GO!

臺灣博物館散步 GO

Should you start with the Presidential Office Building and then move on to the North Gate of the old Taipei city walls? Or are you better off beginning at the Southern Branch of National Palace Museum before you make your way to the National Museum of History? Su Ming-Ju draws on her many years of experience in the world of art and culture administration to join the dots between Taiwan's museums, parks, and significant buildings, highlighting underappreciated cultural gems and providing a deeper insight into the tourist hotspots.

These thirty walking trails are divided into four chronological categories, beginning with the museums that were founded during the first half of the twentieth century when Taiwan was under Japanese rule. The second part of the book focuses on the sites which were built to promote Chinese culture during the fifties and sixties, before part three turns to the natural world, featuring the Museum of Marine Biology and the Museum of Prehistory. Finally, we look at some of the smaller, more specialized museums of recent times, covering subjects ranging from hot springs and literature to fine arts and forestry.

With maps and photos to illustrate these key locations, *Taiwan Museum Trail: Go!* is the perfect tour guide, regardless of whether you're making a trip to Taiwan or visiting in your imagination.



Category: Travel
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Rights contact:
booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com
Pages: 320
Length: 159,000 characters
(approximately 111,000 words in English)
Material: Sample

“ 30 recommended trails that will signpost the way to a true understanding of Taiwan's history and culture ”

TEXT BY

SU MING-JU

蘇明如

Su Ming-Ju has a doctorate in art management and cultural policy from the National Taiwan University of the Arts, and has managed numerous projects for the civil service as well as non-governmental organizations. She currently holds a teaching position in the tourism management department at Shih Chien University, and is also responsible for exhibition planning. Other works include *Creativity and the City* and *Cultural Tourism*.

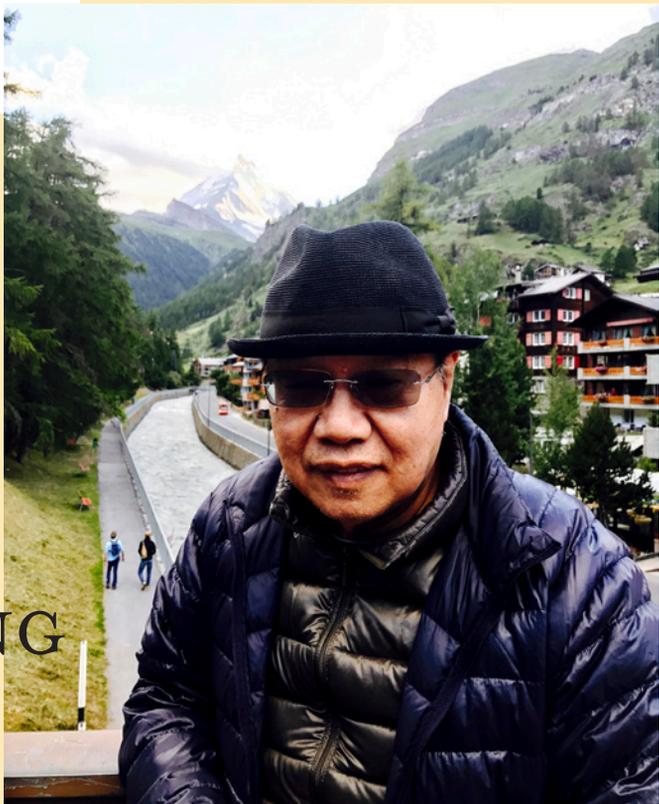


Formerly deputy chief at Kaohsiung's bureau of public hygiene and deputy chair of Kaohsiung Municipal United Hospital, Su Jui-Yung has been a medical adviser for health and hygiene institutes since retiring from civil service.

PHOTOGRAPH BY

SU JUI-YUNG

蘇瑞勇



EMOTIONAL BLACKMAIL

情緒勒索

The concept of emotional blackmail was first posited by the renowned psychotherapist Susan Forward, and it refers to situations when one person induces negative feelings (such as failure, guilt, and fear) in another by being demanding, applying pressure, or refusing to communicate. Emotional blackmail occurs between employers and employees, between parents and children, and between partners, and it often results in a vicious circle of mutual distrust and resentment.

Chou Mu-Tzu explains how emotional blackmail functions with clarity and precision, and analyzes the kinds of mentality that are most susceptible to this negative cycle. She advocates a sense of self-worth and the establishment of clear emotional boundaries as the most important bulwarks against its effects.

The case studies in this book are all especially relevant to Asian cultures, where the traditions of filial piety and the veneration of authority make emotional blackmail a particularly pertinent topic. These practical examples are used to illustrate some of the more specialized psychological terms, making it easy for the reader to come to an understanding of how to avoid becoming ensnared in emotional blackmail.



Category: Self-help

Publisher: Aquarius

Date: 2/2017

Rights contact:

booksfromtaiwan.rights

@gmail.com

Pages: 272

Length: 75,000 characters

(approximately 52,500 words in English)

Rights sold: Simplified Chinese

(Yilin), Korean (Sam & Parkers),

Thai (Wara)

Material: Sample

“ *Taiwan’s bestselling book of 2017, Emotional Blackmail has sold over 110,000 copies and spent 34 weeks on the Books.com.tw bestseller list.* ”

CHOU MU-TZU 周慕姿

Chou Mu-Tzu has a masters from the Institute of Psychology and Counselling at the National Taipei University of Education, and holds a qualification in Encouragement Consulting Training. She has worked as a psychologist and school mentor at numerous counselling centers, and is a frequent guest on TV shows concerning health. She currently runs the Sincere Counselling Center, and is also the vocalist of the folk-gothic heavy metal band “Crescent Lament”. This is her first book, and it sold over seventy-thousand copies in its first six months, sparking a conversation in the media about the concept of emotional blackmail.



I AM HERE FOR YOU

我想傾聽你

Hung Chung-Ching applies his professional expertise and years of counselling experience to some of the most common psychological problems that occur between parent and child, between partners, and within our own egos. *I Am Here for You* is divided into four main sections: “Being Present and Listening”; “Understanding and Forgiveness”; “The Quest for Freeing Relationships” and “Building a New Self”.

This book goes far beyond the recounting of case studies or the citing of general platitudes. Hung Chung-Ching provides detailed analysis of the psychological conditions that motivate our actions, revealing the mental circuits underpinning the emotions. Only when we learn to listen and truly understand one another, he argues, can we move beyond the confusion and misunderstandings that cause us such emotional turmoil.

Hung also tackles some of the specific problems that are most pertinent to Asian society, such as the traditional childrearing techniques that so often cause conflict between the generations. His solution is a particular style of communication that deters recriminations and over-defensiveness through clarity of self-explanation and the vocalization of emotions. *I Am Here for You* explores the challenges of modern relationships using plain language that will allow any reader to grasp the universal principles of healthy relationships.



Category: Self-help
Publisher: Yuan-Liou
Date: 8/2016
Rights contact:
booksfromtaiwan.rights
@gmail.com
Pages: 336
Length: 117,000 characters
(approximately 82,000 words in
English)
Rights sold: Simplified Chinese
(Jiuzhou Press)
Material: Sample

“ *A psychologist with over 260,000 social media followers brings his consulting room to the page.* ”

After seven years as a clinical psychologist, Hung Chung-Ching now heads the Happy Family Psychotherapy Center. He started publishing advice on Facebook in 2011, and now has over 260,000 followers. He has published a series on spiritual growth, which includes the books *Notes on Healing* and *Getting On Well With Yourself*, and has appeared on television to share his exercises for the promotion of positive thinking.



HUNG
CHUNG-CHING
洪仲清

HERE'S TO THE HEARTS THAT ACHE

敬那些痛著的心

This book takes eighteen well-known movies and uses the experiences of their protagonists as a way of exploring life's pains and tribulations. Learn the difference between chasing your dreams and building them from *La La Land*; the dangers of perfectionism from *Black Swan*; how to turn your life around from *Wild*; and how to deal with grief from *Zinnia Flower*.

Su Shun-Hui's own experience taught her how a lack of balance in life leads to illness, and the ache of illness compels you to face up to your problems. Our childhood, relationships, family, and sense of self – they each bring their own difficulties, and with a serious sickness their combined weight can feel even more overwhelming. In investigating all these different varieties of ache, this book will help the reader to become reconciled with themselves, to learn the right moment to let go, and to retain faith in love even after being hurt.

Su has drawn on her considerable experience as a counsellor to create this cinematic course in self-care that will enable readers to handle pain with composure.



Category: Self-help
Publisher: Athena
Date: 4/2017
Rights contact:
booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com
Pages: 240
Length: 67,000 characters
(approximately 47,000 words in English)
Material: Sample

“

A bestselling psychologist examines the topic of hardship through the prism of film

”

SU SHUN-HUI

蘇絢慧

Su Shun-Hui has a masters from the Institute of Psychology and Counselling at the National Taipei University of Education, and has twenty years' experience in psychological counselling. She has worked as a social worker and counsellor at various medical centers and hospices, and is a specialist in childhood trauma; she currently works at the Puchen-Hsinyu Space Mental Health Counseling Center, an institute she founded. Her books have received the Golden Tripod Awards for social science and literature.



WHEN DEPRESSY STRIKES, HOLD IT TIGHT

小鬱亂入抱緊處理

According to the World Health Organization, depression is already the world's leading cause of ill health and disability, and its impact will only worsen in the years to come. Depression disrupts lives, taking a toll on families and racking up sizeable social costs. Yet many people are still unsure how to talk about the condition – which is why this book turns depression into “Depressy”, a cute, mischievous creature who is considerably less intimidating. *When Depressy Strikes, Hold It Tight* employs crisp prose, cute illustrations, and easy-to-understand infographics to convey credible medical expertise on the subject.

As well as going deep into the history of depression and its treatment, this book also offers practical advice on how to deal with the condition, how friends and family can help, and what precautions we can take; it handles the topic of suicide with great tact and sensitivity; and in helping readers learn to distinguish between depression and mood fluctuations, it teaches us to become more aware of our own feelings.

When Depressy Strikes, Hold It Tight dispels some of the most pervasive myths about depression. Readers will be charmed by the book's approachable style and engaging illustrations as Depressy leads them on a journey they were not expecting.



Category: Health
Publisher: Eurasian
Date: 4/2017
Rights contact:
booksfromtaiwan.rights
@gmail.com
Pages: 192
Length: 42,000 characters
(approximately 30,000 words in
English)
Material: Sample

When Depressy Strikes, Hold Him Tight was originally an interactive website created as a graduation project by Lin Yu-Heng and Pai Lin when they were design students. Her mother's experience with mental illness made Lin Yu-Heng realize how poorly society understands the condition, and *Depressy* aimed to overturn these lingering misconceptions through the power of design. An immediate online viral success, *When Depressy Strikes, Hold Him Tight* received a Red Dot Award for Communication Design in 2016, and qualified for Taiwan's Young Pin Design Award in 2016, as well as the Adobe Design Achievement Awards.

A portrait of Pai Lin, a young woman with short black hair and bangs, wearing a white button-down shirt, smiling slightly.

白琳
PAI LIN

“

Depressy: a cute personification of a very serious issue. Recipient of Red Dot Award for Communication Design in 2016.

”

A portrait of Lin Yu-Heng, a young woman with long black hair, wearing a white button-down shirt, looking slightly to the side.

林妤恒
LIN YU-HENG

DETENTION: THE NIGHTMARE RETURNS

返校：惡夢再續

A storm is approaching on the evening eight youngsters head out to test their nerve in the old abandoned schoolhouse.

This is Greenwood Middle School, the site of a fatal incident during the days of the White Terror in Taiwan. After one student informed the authorities about the secret circulation of forbidden books, the subsequent crackdown resulted in jail or execution for those who didn't flee or take their own lives. Rumors have abounded ever since of wrathful spirits lingering within, unable to depart.

It doesn't take long for those eight foolhardy youngsters to realize that the rumors are very much true. Bullet-riddled faces throng the auditorium; a mutilated baseball player with otherworldly strength patrols the sports field; and anyone who dawdles in the corridors risks being turned into a meat puppet.

Their attempts to escape are thwarted by the ghosts lurking in every corner. What happened here, all those years ago, to make them feel such rage? What do the ghosts want? And will the survivors still be able to trust one another as their numbers start to dwindle?

The original PC game *Detention* soared to the top of the Steam store charts in Taiwan on its release in 2017, and within three days it had reached the number three spot internationally. The movie and TV rights have also been sold; filming starts on the movie in 2018, under the supervision of Lee Lieh (producer of *Monga*) and Aileen Li (producer of Luc Besson's *Lucy*).



Category: Fiction

Publisher: Sharp Point

Date: 2/2017

Rights contact:

booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com

Pages: 304

Length: 105,000 characters (approximately 73,500 words in English)

Material: Sample

“

A grisly campus thriller, adapted from the international megahit game

”



TEXT BY

LING JING

苓菁

Known as “The Queen of Supernatural” in Taiwan, Ling Jing is famous for her portrayal of the darker side of human psychology and her unflinching examination of society. A bestselling author and blogger, her works include the *Urban Legends*, *Bad Fairytale*, and *Dark Dark Sounds*.

STORY BY

RED CANDLE GAMES

赤燭遊戲

The Taiwanese studio Red Candle Games drew inspiration from George Orwell’s 1984 in producing the acclaimed horror game *Detention*. Their next title will be a platformer entitled *Stay With Me*.



ILLUSTRATED BY

PEGEHOHO

LONG NIGHT

長夜

Though Chen Yu's fiction is famous for its heart-wrenching plot twists, most of her novels eventually find their way to something resembling a happy ending. *Long Night*, however, is an abrupt departure from her previous oeuvre, in terms of both structure and content. The four sections of the novel are narrated from the distinct perspectives of four different characters – but what they all share is a poignant sense of melancholy.

Tai Yuan-Yen is a girl suffering deep trauma from a sexual assault in her past, her beauty and breezy demeanor belying the nightmares and depression that haunt her. Only one person can offer her solace: Wang Wei-Kai, the boy-next-door who dreams of becoming a tattoo artist. One day, he promises, he will ink a pair of wings on her back. But Yuan-Yen could never have imagined that a decision taken out of kindness would drive her and Wei-Kai apart, eliminating any possibility that they might some day find love together.

In her frustration, Yuan-Yen breaks off relations with Wei-Kai and allows Chou Hsin-Yu – a boy who has always carried a torch for her – into her life. But their

relationship brings only disappointment, and ultimately causes such despair for Yuan-Yen that she ends up becoming a true angel, when she throws herself off a building. Her death is a terrible blow to both Wei-Kai and Hsin-Yu. Both go into isolation: Wei-Kai opens a tattoo parlor in Yuan-Yen's name but vows never to ink a pair of wings on anyone again, while Hsin-Yu drops out of university and goes into a slump – until the day a lovelorn girl shows up at his door....

In *Long Night*, Chen Yu depicts four tragic lives using language that is restrained yet emotive, her powers of characterization enhanced by the novel's innovative structure.



Category: Fiction

Publisher: Cite Original

Date: 1/2016

Rights contact:

booksfromtaiwan.rights
@gmail.com

Pages: 288

Length: 99,000 characters

(approximately 70,000 words in
English)

Material: Sample



CHEN YU 晨羽

Chen Yu was still in high school when she first started writing fiction online. The initial rejections she received from publishers only spurred her desire to create, and her writing career began in earnest after she won the Cross Straits Literary Competition for her novel *Deep Seas* in 2011. Since then she has been publishing two books a year, never flinching from serious topics such as domestic violence and campus bullying. She has been one of the top five bestselling Chinese-language authors on Books.com.tw for the last two years, and her fifteen novels to date have combined sales of around five hundred thousand copies.

“ *The breakthrough title from Taiwan’s bestselling YA romance author* ”

OH, AND HAPPY BIRTHDAY

然後，生日快樂

Throughout her career, Tsao Hsiao-Ju has fashioned a distinctive “aesthetic of loneliness” by defying the conventions of the traditional romance novel. In *Oh, and Happy Birthday* she introduces a new formal innovation, presenting ten seemingly unconnected stories that are in fact deftly woven together in unexpected ways.

A vet finds one of his customers uncannily reminiscent of a girl he fell for in his grad student days. It’s not just the physical resemblance: both women are proud owners of a British bulldog. That first girl ended up marrying the artist she had always been secretly besotted with, but now it seems like fate is offering up another chance at love. Elsewhere, a famous blogger struggles with writer’s block for three years, until the day he crosses paths with a new editor. The nature of their online friendship allows him to open up to her in ways he never imagined possible, and with her encouragement he slowly begins to rediscover his passion for writing.

These are the chance encounters, the miraculous moments of fate, that stitch together the narratives of *Oh, and Happy Birthday*. With her trademark blend of perspicacity and readability, Tsao Hsiao-Ju perfectly captures that moment at the inception of something that might just turn out to be love.



Category: Fiction, Short Stories

Publisher: Spring

Date: 5/2017

Rights contact:

booksfromtaiwan.rights

@gmail.com

Pages: 256

Length: 65,000 characters

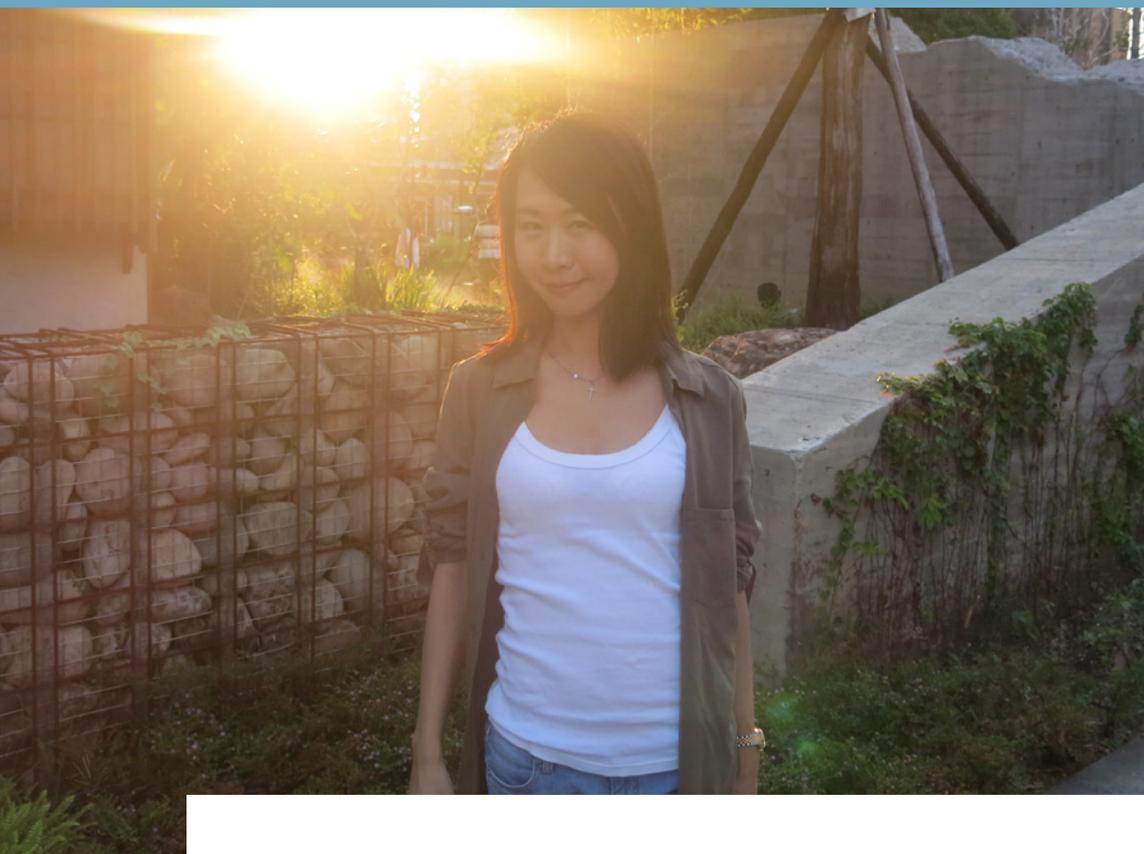
(approximately 45,000 words in English)

Right sold:

Simplified Chinese (Popular)

Material: Sample

“ Sometimes new love emerges from the remnants of old love; sometimes you can’t see where love begins because you’re looking at it from the inside. ”



TSAO HSIAO-JU

曹筱如（橘子）

Regarded by some readers as Taiwan's answer to Kaori Ekuni, Tsao Hsiao-Ju has become a permanent fixture in the bestseller list, with combined sales exceeding the two million mark. Her bestselling works include *Sorry, I Love You*, *More Than Just Friends*, and *Don't Cry*; she also penned the script to the TV series *Devil Beside You*, as well as the novelization of the Jay Chou movie *Secret* and the South Korean dramas *Sad Love Story* and *My Girl*. *Oh, and Happy Birthday* is her most recent release.

LIFE OF A SUMMONER

召喚師的馴獸日常

Life of a Summoner takes place in a world where mankind coexists with magical beasts who are compelled to obey when called by a summoner into the human realm. The beasts are divided into grades according to their strength, and a summoner can only call on them if he or she has a corresponding level of magic and willpower. Norr, an insouciant fawn, is a grade B beast. He would be capable of battling with the most powerful of beasts if he or she chose to, but Norr, the guardian of the grasslands, keeps his true strength hidden.

One day, Norr finds himself summoned by a nervous-looking young summoner named Nyshi. Unlike most summoners, Nyshi has no interest in bullying the most powerful beasts, preferring the company of rabbits, earth spirits and trees. Instead of forcing Norr into battle, Nyshi invites him to share an afternoon tea. Yet the relationship between the two is threatened when an encounter with the crazed dragon clan compels Norr to reveal his true power. Upset by Nyshi's decision to quit summoning him, Norr tries to win him over again, but ends up endangering himself in the process. Now Norr will have to find a way out of trouble – and, in doing so, perhaps find out the real reason why Nyshi seems so afraid of the highest-grade beasts.

This innovative debut from Cao Cao Ni was originally serialized on Cite Original's online platform. After an overwhelmingly positive response from readers, *Life of a Summoner* was published in a series of six installments over the last eighteen months.



Category: Fiction (Light Novel)
Publisher: Cite Original
Date: 4/2016
Rights contact:
booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com
Pages: 232
Length: 92,000 characters
(approximately 64,500 words in English)
Material: Sample

“ This fantasy tale of magical creatures and powerful summoners was one of the bestselling light novels of 2016 on both Books.com.tw and Kingstone. ”

Cao Cao Ni belongs to a new generation of fantasy writers in Taiwan. A keen fan of western fantasy and fairy tales, she draws inspiration for her fiction from action RPG games. She is currently working on *Alice Online*, a new internet novel that updates the story of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*.

TEXT BY

CAO CAO NI
草草泥

ILLUSTRATED BY

NYARORO
喵四郎



I SCARE MYSELF

深表遺憾，我病起來連自己都怕

The world changed forever with the appearance of the “psychers”: people whose mental disorders unlock superhuman abilities within them. The realms of science, international relations, and crime were utterly transformed by these powerful individuals who became highly coveted assets. Chi Ching-Hsia is the only person who understands how to produce new psychers, and she disappeared two years ago following a deadly massacre.

Her younger sister, Chi Yu-Tung and a boy named Chi Wu were the only survivors. Currently imprisoned in the subaquatic “psychers institute” where the massacre took place, they are racing to relocate Chi Ching-Hsia when murder strikes the facility again. Now Chi Wu must use his synaesthetic powers to try and uncover the killer before they can claim any more victims. As their investigation leads them deeper into the past, Chi Wu and Chi Yu-Tung realize that the events of two years ago are not all that they seem – and that Chi Ching-Hsia may still be somehow involved in the present-day danger they are facing.

In *I Scare Myself Sometimes*, Deer Lee extrapolates a fantasy world from the minutia of mental disorder to produce a zany thriller that remains rooted in the real world.



Category: Fiction (Light Novel)

Publisher: Sharp Point

Date: 10/2016

Rights contact:

booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com

Pages: 280

Length: 95,000 characters

(approximately 66,500 words in English)

Material: Sample

LF SOMETIMES

Deer Lee is a renowned novelist whose work dominates the bestseller lists. His novels include *When Love Becomes a Transaction*, which won the Kadawowa Mandarin Light Novel and Illustration Bronze Award in 2013.

DEER LEE
小鹿



“ *The latest work from award-winning writer Deer Lee, this offbeat thriller topped Taiwan’s Kingstone and Books.com.tw bestseller lists.* ”

THE PHANTOM'S

幽靈代理人

The narrator of *The Phantom's Agent*, a boy who lives alone, is skipping class at home one day when he is startled to discover himself face-to-face with an imposing-looking ghost: a former cop who has received special dispensation from the King of Hell to return to the mortal realm and seek out the murderer who killed him. Since he is only able to assume corporeal form and manipulate physical objects in this youth's presence, the ghost cop is forced to try and coerce him into helping.

Eventually the youth reluctantly agrees to help assist in the investigation, only to discover himself facing a series of increasingly difficult challenges: taking care of the cop's old drug sniffer dog, who

consumes (and excretes) on a massive scale; climbing through a rat-infested ventilation duct; and confronting a boss of the underworld who can see and hex ghosts (and is prepared to inject him with a dangerous quantity of cocaine if he says the wrong thing). He may need an increase in pocket money allowance – and perhaps an extra life or two – if he's going to survive.

The Phantom's Agent is a series of five novels about a pair of utterly incompatible partners. The case they are investigating is a serious one, but the friction between ghost and human is a source of constant entertainment.

“ In Taiwan's answer to the Thai horror film *Senior*, a good-for-nothing boy and the ghost of a policeman work together to solve a case. ”

AGENT



PEPPER

胡椒椒

Pepper is an elusive novelist with a knack for portraying male romance. *The Phantom's Agent* is her best-known work.

Category: Fiction (Light Novel)

Publisher: Mikazuki

Date: 2/2016

Rights contact:

booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com

Pages: 272

Length: 95,000 characters

(approximately 66,500 words in English)

Material: Sample

BOOKS FROM TAIWAN

ASIAN EDITION