

A S I A N

E D I T I O N



BOOKS FROM TAIWAN

<http://booksfromtaiwan.tw/>

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CONTENTS

About MOC & Books from Taiwan	7
Grant for the Publication of Taiwanese Works in Translation	8

Books from Taiwan

Art COLORS OF A RAINY PORT	12
by Cheng Kai-Hsiang • published by Kiwi Creative	
Art TIME SKETCH.....	14
by Michael Leu • published by Cube	
Travel CHIAYI INSIDE OUT.....	16
by Yang Ning-Kai • published by Delight	
Travel RETURN TO WEIR ISLAND.....	18
by Yang Fu-Tzu, Tseng Yu-Chi • published by Make Paths	
Memoir A LIFE IN MORTAR.....	20
by Cheng Chih-Hung • published by Sun Color	
Film Book ON THE TRAIN.....	22
by Hsiao Chu-Chen • published by Locus	
Social Science UNDERGROUND LIVES.....	24
by Chien Yung-Ta • published by SpringHill	
Reportage WHO ARE OUTSIDERS	26
by Huang Wen-Ling • published by Linking	
Reportage UKRAINE'S IMPOSSIBLE WAR	28
Text by Liu Chih-Hsin, The Reporter • Photo by Yang Tzu-Lai • Edited by Sherry Hsueh-Li Lee • published by SpringHill	
Nature RANGES FAR AND HIGH	30
Text by Yu Chih-Chieh • Illustration by Huang Han-Yau, Ong Jin-Yao • published by SpringHill	

Science	KUROSHIO ODYSSEY.....	32
	by Jan Sen, Chiang Wei-Chuan · published by Yeren	
Science	TAIWAN'S BADLANDS.....	34
	by Su Shew-Jiuan, Liang Shu-Ting, Wu Yi-Hsuan, Liu Hong-Yi, Ke Ling-Hua, Hew Shun-Win, Huang Hui-Min · published by Yeren	
Photography	BONFIRE ISLAND.....	36
	by Hsieh San-Tai · published by Walkers	
Commercial Fiction	THE DREAM MESSENGER.....	38
	by X.Y Chou · published by Cite Original	
MM Romance	CHEF'S MENU.....	40
	by Yukimori Cheng · published by Cite Original	
Romance	LAST GOODBYE.....	42
	by Macchiato · published by Cite Original	
Young Adult	THE DAY THE MOON STOOD STILL.....	44
	by Misa · published by Cite Original	
Historical Fiction	YUHUM OF THE WARRIORS.....	46
	by Yupas Watan · published by Taiwan Interminds	
Historical Fiction	WE, A WOMAN.....	48
	by Yen Min-Ru · published by Showwe Information	
Short Stories	SUGAR BUN ISLAND.....	50
	by Lu-pin · published by Ink	

ABOUT MOC & BOOKS FROM TAIWAN

About Ministry of Culture

The Ministry of Culture of Taiwan (Republic of China) was established on May 20, 2012.

As a member of the Executive Yuan, the Ministry oversees and cultivates Taiwan's soft power in the areas of arts and humanities, community development, crafts industry, cultural exchanges, international cultural participation, heritage, literature and publishing, living aesthetics, TV, cinema, and pop music.

The logo of the Ministry is an indigo-dyed morning glory. The indigenous flower symbolizes a trumpet heralding the coming of a new renaissance, in which cultural resources and aesthetics permeate all corners of the nation. The morning glory also represents the grassroots tenacity of Taiwan's diverse culture, a yearning for the positivity, simplicity, and warmth of earlier days, and a return to collective roots and values.

About Books from Taiwan

Books from Taiwan is an initiative funded by Ministry of Culture to introduce a select list of Taiwan publishing titles, ranging from fiction, non-fiction, children's books, and comic books, to foreign publishers and readers alike.

You can find information about authors and books, along with who to contact in order to license translation rights, and the related resources about the Grant for the Publication of Taiwanese Works in Translation (GPT), sponsored by the Ministry of Culture of Taiwan.

GRANT FOR THE PUBLICATION OF TAIWANESE WORKS IN TRANSLATION (GPT)

MINISTRY OF CULTURE,
REPUBLIC OF CHINA
(TAIWAN)

GPT is set up by The Ministry of Culture to encourage the publication of Taiwanese works in translation overseas, to raise the international visibility of Taiwanese cultural content, and to help Taiwan's publishing industry expand into non-Chinese international markets.

- Applicant Eligibility: Foreign publishing house (legal entity) legally registered or incorporated in accordance with the laws and regulations of their respective countries.
- Conditions:
 1. The so-called Taiwanese works must meet the following requirements:
 - A. Use traditional characters;
 - B. Written by a natural person holding an R.O.C. identity card;
 - C. Has been assigned an ISBN in Taiwan.
i.e., the author is a native of Taiwan, and the first 6 digits of the book's ISBN are 978-957-XXX-XXX-X, 978-986-XXX-XXX-X, or 978-626-XXX-XXX-X.
 2. Applications must include documents certifying that the copyright holder of the Taiwanese works consents to its translation and foreign publication (no restriction on its format).
 3. A translation sample of the Taiwanese work is required (no restriction on its format and length).

4. The translated work must be published within two years, after the first day of the relevant application period.

- Grant Items:

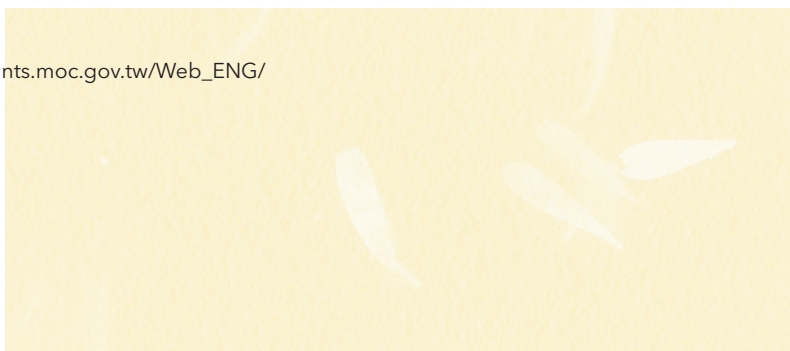
1. The maximum grant available for each project is NT\$600,000, which covers:
 - A. Licensing fees (going to the copyright holder of the Taiwanese works);
 - B. Translation fees;
 - C. Marketing and promotion fees (applicants for this funding must propose a specific marketing promotion plan and complete the implementation before submitting the grant project results; those whose plans include talks or book launching events attended by authors in person will be given priority for grants);
 - D. Book production-oriented fees;
 - E. Tax (20% of the total award amount);
 - F. Remittance-related handling fees.

2. Priority consideration is given to books that have received the Golden Tripod Award, the Golden Comic Award, the Taiwan Literature Award, books on Taiwan's culture and history, or series of books.

- Application Period: Twice every year, from April 1 to April 30, and from October 1 to October 31. The MOC reserves the right to change the application periods, and will announce said changes separately.
- Announcement of successful applications: Winners will be announced within three months of the end of the application period.
- Application Method: Please visit the Ministry's official website (https://grants.moc.gov.tw/Web_ENG/), and use the online application system.

For full details, please visit: https://grants.moc.gov.tw/Web_ENG/

Or contact: books@moc.gov.tw



A S I A N

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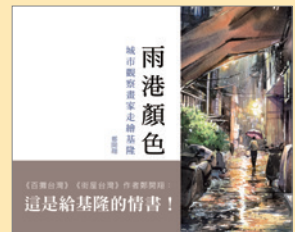
COLORS OF A RAINY PORT: AN URBAN SKETCH ARTIST'S PAINTINGS OF KEELUNG

雨港顏色： 城市觀察畫家走繪基隆

Keelung, nestled against both mountains and the sea, is the largest port city in northern Taiwan. Early development and proximity to coal and gold mines aided development of the city's rich history and culture. In the seventeenth century, the Spanish and Dutch used the natural port as a base for their activities; in the early twentieth century, the Japanese colonial government's push to build new infrastructure established the importance of the Port of Keelung for the next century. Now, thanks to the media and popular culture, the image of Keelung as "the Rainy Port" is here to stay.

In 2021, Cheng Kai-Hsiang, well-known for his watercolor sketches of street scenes, was invited to be an artist-in-residence for a project intended to revitalize an old Keelung neighborhood. This book is a record of his life and creative output during the year-plus he lived there. The book contains a total of 110 illustrations, which include images of daily life, city landmarks, traditional markets, famous delicacies, and unidentified townhouses. Each illustration is accompanied by Cheng's detailed observations on Keelung, as well as local stories he gathered while roaming its streets, putting the many vibrant colors of the Rainy Port on display.

Streets where people holding umbrellas come and go, wet ground reflecting street lights, crowded night markets and religious festivals - Cheng's brush turns the inconvenience, noise, and chaos of daily life in Keelung into vivid scenes conveying the local color. As we look at Keelung through the artist's eyes, we not only discover beauty in the ordinary, but also for a brief moment feel we are there, taking in the view from its winding streets and breathing in its humid, salty sea air.



Category: Art
Publisher: Kiwi Creative
Date: 12/2023
Rights contact:
bft.fiction.nonfiction@moc.gov.tw
Pages: 240
Length: 70,000 characters
(approx. 45,500 words in English)

Cheng Kai-Hsiang, known as a painter of the urban moment, is the first professional artist to depict Taiwanese townhome and shophouse culture. He has painted the urban architecture of Taiwan and several other East Asian cities, using his brush and vibrant color to create snapshots of local culture and communities. His first illustrated book has been translated into French, Japanese, and Spanish.



Cheng Kai-Hsiang

鄭開翔

“Urban sketch artist Cheng Kai-Hsiang’s vibrant watercolors offer readers a taste of life in the port city of Keelung and a glimpse of its many charming tourist attractions.”

TIME SKETCH: AN EPIC TALE OF ORDINARY PEOPLE'S LIVES IN TAIWAN

時光寫生：

手繪 0.65 世紀臺灣庶民日常

In the mid-1980s, Michael Leu left Taipei, his home of more than thirty years, and moved to San Francisco in the United States. When he returned to Taiwan many years later, Taipei was like another world, the home of his youth nothing but a decades-old memory. This experience gave him the idea of recording memories with a brush, resulting in the picture book *Time Sketch*.

In the book's first few pages, a boy wearing a white baseball hat naps in a boat on the Mississippi River. The boat drifts downriver into a mysterious cave filled with stalactites and stalagmites. When the boat exits the cave, the boy wakes up and finds himself in Taiwan's remote, sparsely populated countryside. Following in the boy's footsteps as he travels from a small village to a large city, the reader enjoys a bird's-eye view of Taiwan's rural life of the 1950s and 60s, then the hustle and bustle of urban people and cars. In the final pages, we follow him through the main gate of a traditional house into modern Taipei, where the boy, who now has the face of an older man, dozes off on the subway.

Using incredibly fine brushwork, Leu depicts realistic scenes recalled from memory in an approach that brings to mind an imaginative "collage". Street scenes and buildings from different memories, regions, and time are often juxtaposed on the same page, while the sleeping boy brings a dreamlike quality to the experience. In the last dozen or so pages, the artist explains his creative concept and provides some additional information for scenes that have almost entirely disappeared today. These interesting details are sure to add to the reader's enjoyment.



Category: Art
Publisher: Cube
Date: 11/2018
Rights contact:
bft.fiction.nonfiction@moc.gov.tw
Pages: 52
Length: 7,396 characters
(approx. 4,807 words in English)

“

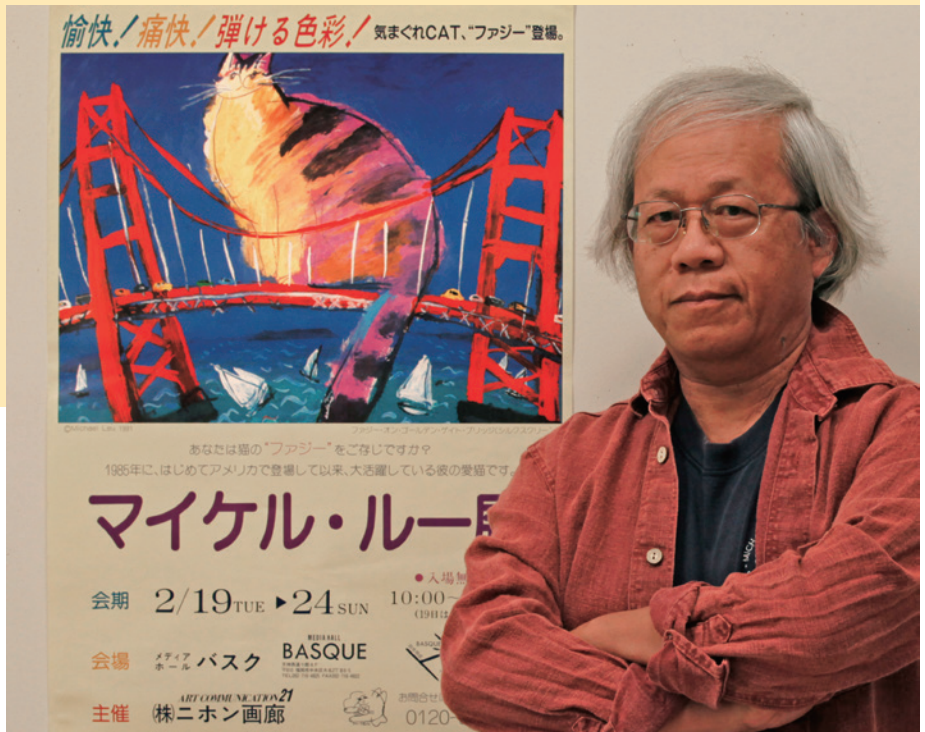
From the American countryside to smalltown Taiwan, from past decades to modern times, artist Michael Leu uses his personal immigration experience to translate the Taiwan he recalls into a trip through time captured on paper.

”

Michael Leu

呂游銘

Michael Leu was born in Taipei in 1950. Since 1983, he has lived in the San Francisco Bay Area, California, USA, making art. He has also accepted invitations to create illustrations for books and to participate in interior design projects. His cat-themed paintings are particularly in demand by international collectors. In 2015, the documentary *An Odyssey of Dreams* (Donnie Chun-Yu Lai, director), which explored the artist's decades-long creative journey, was released in Taiwan



CHIAYI INSIDE OUT: FROM ART SPACES AND STREET FOOD TO MOUNTAINS AND SEA, A LOOK AROUND THE CITY FROM A LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

Chiayi Inside Out is not your typical travel book - it could instead be called an anthology rich in the local creative spirit. Its young author now resides in and actively promotes her native Chiayi. Her zest for life and unique insights take the reader into Chiayi's hidden nooks, places even locals don't always know. We see a Chiayi we never imagined, both ancient and full of fresh ideas.

The book is divided into five thematic sections: art and culture, curated goods and aesthetic lifestyle, local foods and ingredients, hidden gourmet specialties, and nature and the out-of-doors. It also offers six exclusive routes, 105 scenic spots, and QR codes that link to Google Maps. The book's abundance of exquisite photos, in-depth local knowledge, and ingenious design take readers on a trip through time from old to new Chiayi: enter buildings that exude history, such as the Southern Branch of the National Palace Museum and the Old Prison, then visit the most popular local temples and experience folk beliefs first-hand.

Along the way, readers can hear the fascinating story of an old brand's new life after a heritage shop's second generation took the helm; browse curated styles in stores catering to the younger crowd, then sit down in a speakeasy when they get tired of walking; or visit a century-old traditional market to experience the epitome of local life, the good eats known only to residents, and Chiayi's unique condiments, including the best soy sauce pickles ever made.

Following in the author's footsteps, readers will discover a "Chiayi" that's more than just the Alishan mountain that made the city famous. From mountains to seaside, urban areas to suburbs, culture to nature, discover everything you need to eat, drink, and have fun!



Category: Travel
Publisher: Delight
Date: 7/2023
Rights contact:
bft.fiction.nonfiction@moc.gov.tw
Pages: 288
Length: 76,816 characters
(approx. 49,930 words in English)

裏嘉義：

從藝文空間、巷弄小吃到山海風景，走進在地人眼中的生活角落



Yang Ning-Kai is a graphic design content creator and travel blogger. A Chiayi native, she writes with sincerity and warmth about the local customs and traditions of various places, her work appearing in many well-known lifestyle media outlets such as the magazine GQ. Her family moved to northern Taiwan during her school years, but she returned to her hometown of Chiayi to stay in 2020. She is active in local expos and events, hoping to show Chiayi to the world.

Yang
Ning-Kai
下港女子

“ This atypical travel book is both local tour guide and travel companion, introducing visitors to interesting places other guidebooks don't mention. It also offers a modern interpretation of an ancient place, giving even locals familiar with the area a new understanding of their city's beauty. ”

RETURN TO WEIR ISLAND: PENGHU'S STONE WEIRS AND AN

回到滬之島： 澎湖石滬與里海生活誌

* 2023 Openbook Award

The Twin Hearts Stone Weir is the most famous tourist landmark in Penghu, but even the authors, both born and raised on the island, weren't quite sure what purpose the piled-up stones served until they decided to give up their careers in Taiwan and make Penghu their home again. Only then did they gradually begin to understand the stone weirs and the people of Penghu. *Return to Weir Island* tells their journey of discovery and the path that brought them home.

This book consists of four chapters: Chapter one introduces the basics of stone weirs, including their history, structure, purpose, and method of use. Readers learn that the weirs are like real estate and can be passed down from generation to generation, and also like a company, operated as a joint venture. In chapter two, the authors explain their return to Penghu and how they subsequently got involved in repairing the weirs. As the story of their project progresses, readers gradually realize that repairing a weir is not just stacking up some stones - an understanding of construction methods and sea tides is also required. Chapter three introduces in greater detail the people and community the authors got to know through their weir restoration work, discussing the traditional skills in which these individuals are experts, such as making fishing traps and tools, weaving fish baskets and straw sandals, collecting sea vegetables, and processing fish. In chapter four, the authors provide an overview of Penghu's stone weirs, sharing the stories of those they consider most representative.

In this book, readers are introduced to stone weirs through photos and text, but they will learn about far more than these heart-shaped stone structures in the intertidal zone. They will also learn about life in a seaside community, and in the process, feel closer to Penghu, even if they aren't from the island.



Category: Travel
Publisher: Make Paths
Date: 6/2023
Rights contact:
bft.fiction.nonfiction@moc.gov.tw
Pages: 352
Length: 95,000 characters
(approx. 61,750 words in English)

ECO-FRIENDLY COASTAL LIFESTYLE

“

After returning to the island where they were born, two young people discovered new career possibilities in stone weirs, a traditional fishing method in slow decline. Beginning with the history and culture of this ancient method, this book introduces readers to the fascinating past and present of stone weirs.

”

Yang Fu-Tzu, born in Penghu in 1995, is currently co-founder of the websites [isle.travel](#) and [stoneweir.info](#). In 2017, she returned to Penghu to start a business, which initially focused on stone weir restoration. She works with local residents in her efforts to create a traditional yet modern fishing-village lifestyle that keeps pace with the times.



Yang Fu-Tzu 楊馥慈



Tseng Yu-Chi
曾宥輯

Tseng Yu-Chi, born in Penghu in 1992, is currently co-founder of the websites [isle.travel](#) and [stoneweir.info](#). In charge of the aerial and underwater photography of Penghu's stone weirs, he aspires to go look at every stone weir in the world.

A LIFE IN MORTAR: A TILE SETTER'S LIFE LESSONS LEARNED ON THE JOB

我扛得起水泥，扛得住人生： 泥作阿鴻，工地裡的水泥哲學家

In an Asian society where academic qualifications are highly valued, most people think of tile and plastering work as unremarkable, unskilled labor. With this book, Cheng Chih-Hung challenges these negative perceptions, drawing on 30 years of experience in the industry. Family debt led him to apprentice at a construction site after junior high, following in his uncle's footsteps. Extraordinary perseverance, time, and experience have turned him into a craftsman of immense skill with the ability to influence society.

The first half of *A Life in Mortar* talks about the author's life and how he became skilled at his trade, from his time spent learning at the feet of master craftsmen to his insistence on quality and attention to detail after his apprenticeship was complete. He then discusses the difficulty of training master craftsmen: A global shortage of workers and unprofessional individuals lacking the required skills have led to poor construction quality and caused engineering nightmares.

The second half of the book raises the issue of respect for those in the "mud work" trade and ensuring that skills are passed down. During his many years in the industry, Cheng has encountered employers who negotiated rock-bottom rates and reneged on promises. As a spokesperson for workers' rights, particularly their right to respect, he has selflessly shared pictures of tile and plaster projects on his blog and Facebook page, helping the public to understand his work and debunking stereotypes. Thanks to his growing popularity, he now offers a course on creating frameless plaster wall paintings, and has also accepted invitations to lectures and exchanges abroad.

In a writing style both straightforward and sincere, Cheng shares a powerful life philosophy built on premises such as keeping an open mind and believing in what you do. Readers see what it takes to develop a master craftsman's skills and to pursue work worth doing.



Category: Memoir
Publisher: Sun Color
Date: 3/2023
Rights contact:
bft.fiction.nonfiction@moc.gov.tw
Pages: 240
Length: 40,000 characters
(approx. 26,000 words in English)

“ Most people think of tile setting as humble, labor-intensive work. Cheng Chih-Hung draws on thirty years of experience at construction sites to share with readers his philosophy of life as a tiling and plastering master craftsman, challenging numerous stereotypes along the way. ”

Cheng Chih-Hung

泥作阿鴻 (鄭志鴻)

Cheng Chih-Hung is a Taiwanese master craftsman who specializes in tile setting and decorative plaster. He began working on construction sites after junior high and has worked in the tile and plaster trade for nearly 30 years. His Facebook page ([nijohn886](#)), dedicated to his craft, has over 180,000 followers.



ON THE TRAIN

南方，寂寞鐵道： 我們在時光列車上相遇

* Documentary film of the same name was released in 2023

Taiwan, small and densely populated, has relied on traditional trains to connect places for over a hundred years. The South Link Line, which runs through the southern part of Taiwan's Central Mountain Range, was the most challenging section of track to build, requiring eleven years of construction before it opened, but had the most beautiful scenery of any train route on the island. Upon completion, this line handled most of the east-west transportation and national defense traffic in Taiwan's southern tip.

As times changed, the noise and sweltering heat of the old trains slowly disappeared, however, replaced by a new, electrified railway system. Using her extensive experience as a documentary filmmaker, Hsiao Chu-Chen takes a nostalgic look at a time before the final section of Taiwan's South Link Line was electrified, creating a record of a railway experience that no longer exists.

Divided into four major sections, the book tells fifty stories about the South Link Line's construction and the mostly unknown life-and-death challenges faced by its frontline personnel. These individuals include three generations of a railway family that passed down their sense of honor and duty and the drivers who showed up for work even in life-threatening situations. In addition to the male crews and personnel who dedicated their lives to the railway, the book also introduces readers to the strong, hardworking women who were right beside them, including the first female station attendant.

After six years exploring the most isolated and beautiful rail line in Taiwan, Director Hsiao and her crew have succeeded in capturing the railway's historical trajectory, cultural landscape, and communal memories in deft prose and stunning images of mountains and rails.



Category: Film Book

Publisher: Locus

Date: 6/2023

Rights contact:

bft.fiction.nonfiction@moc.gov.tw

Pages: 336

Length: 60,648 characters

(approx. 39,400 words in English)

Hsiao Chu-Chen is a veteran documentary filmmaker who has worked as a reporter, columnist, television series producer, screenwriter, and director. She is currently an associate professor in the General Studies Center of National Tsing Hua University. She has twice won a Taipei Golden Horse Award as well as a Taipei Film Award and Taiwan International Documentary Film Award. Her films have also been nominated at major international competitions, including the International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam and the Yamagata International Documentary Film Festival.



Hsiao Chu-Chen

蕭菊貞

“

On the Train is based on the documentary of the same name by Golden Horse Award-winning director Hsiao Chu-Chen. The director and her crew spent six years filming the South Link Line prior to its electrification, making a lasting record in images and words of a disappearing railway landscape.

”

UNDERGROUND LIVES: THE UNTOLD STORIES OF MIGRANT WORKERS IN TAIWAN

移工築起的地下社會： 跨國勞動在臺灣

* 2023 Openbook Award

The spread of globalization led to Taiwan's industrial transformation of the late 1980s and brought a surge of foreign migrant workers to fill the lowest ranks of the labor force. More recently, industrial upgrading, an aging population, and increased demand for caretakers has swelled Taiwan's migrant worker population, which now approaches 800,000.

Most of these overseas workers are from Southeast Asia. Most work in low-level, labor-intensive jobs in fishing, construction, and the traditional and technology industries. They have made major contributions to Taiwan's economic growth; they also provide long-term care and caretaking in many households, filling the need for these services in an aging society. Yet they have also long been subject to an inflexible system and laws, their hardships and helplessness largely invisible to the public. With this book, the author captures the beauty and sorrow in the lives of Taiwan's foreign migrant workers.

The book is divided into four parts. Part one describes how the author gained access to the migrant worker community, discusses the development of an ethnic economy, and examines shifts in Taiwan's migrant worker policy, from viewing labor as a commodity to valuing human rights. Part two examines occupational injury risks for migrant workers and mechanisms for compensation. Part three focuses on how this group has integrated into life in Taiwan and the subsequent impact of this adjustment on identity, self-actualization, and building new social relationships. The final part examines how competition has changed overseas recruiting and the labor brokerage industry, thus changing the situation of migrant workers for the better.



Category: Social Science
Publisher: SpringHill
Date: 10/2023
Rights contact:
bft.fiction.nonfiction@moc.gov.tw
Pages: 536
Length: 200,000 characters
(approx. 130,000 words in English)

Chien Yung-Ta, a journalist long committed to reporting on the disadvantaged and human rights issues, brings the stories of migrant workers into vivid focus in this book. His comprehensive and critical investigative reporting, which also covers international brand labor rights from the perspective of international political economy, provides readers with crucial insights into Taiwan's migrant workers and recent labor issues.

Chien Yung-Ta, a native of Nantou, graduated from the Graduate Institute of Journalism at National Taiwan University. He previously worked full-time for *The Reporter* and as a contributor to *Mirror Media's* People section. A former Fulbright Scholar as well as a visiting scholar at Harvard University and Academia Sinica's Center for Asia-Pacific Area Studies, he has received numerous awards, including the Taiwan Excellent Journalism Award, the SOPA Award for Editorial Excellence, a Hong Kong Human Rights Press Award, and first prize in the Taiwan Press Photographer Association's annual photo contest.

Chien Yung-Ta

簡永達

Taiwan's economic growth owes much to foreign migrant workers, but few know of their toil or difficult lives. Freelance journalist Chien Yung-Ta spent seven years conducting in-depth field research into how this foreign community really lives.

WHO ARE OUTSIDERS: AN INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALIST'S JOURNEY IN SEARCH OF VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE IN GERMANY AND TAIWAN

誰是外來者：

在德國、臺灣之間，獨立記者的跨國越南難民探尋

Huang Wen-Ling, a Taiwanese journalist living in Germany, was motivated by her own identity as an “outsider” to embark on an in-depth investigation of Germany’s Vietnamese immigrant community. This group, often described by Germans as a “model minority”, inspired the author to find out what it takes for immigrants to successfully integrate into a new society, how the governments and local communities respond to them, as well as the potential benefits they bring to their host country. Her investigation revealed the far-from-simple profile of Germany’s Vietnamese immigrants.

Four decades before Germany began accepting Syrian refugees in 2015, it opened its doors to another group of “outsiders” - Vietnamese boat people. A comprehensive purge carried out by Vietnam’s new government after the Vietnam War caused many in southern Vietnam to flee. In the late 1970s, images of boat people drifting out to sea like candles in the wind shocked the world.

Divided into three sections, the book begins with West Germany, showing how it mobilized citizens to promote a humanitarian policy of accepting Vietnamese boat people. The next section covers roughly the same period in East Germany, where the government recruited contract workers from Vietnam, its socialist ally, in response to labor shortages created after young people fled to West Germany. These very different policies had a profound effect on the degree



Category: Reportage
Publisher: Linking
Date: 8/2022
Rights contact:
bft.fiction.nonfiction@moc.gov.tw
Pages: 365
Length: 153,426 characters
(approx. 99,700 words in English)

to which these two communities were able to integrate into society. Later, the author includes the example of how Taiwan's government of that era took in Vietnamese-Chinese "expatriates" for ideological reasons, and not as refugees in the modern sense.

Author Huang Wen-Ling conducted interviews with more than fifty Vietnamese immigrants in Germany and Taiwan, hearing first-hand their gripping personal stories. With the objective perspective of an individual who has one foot in the ring, she helps readers understand Germany and Taiwan's past and future interactions with refugees.

“

South Vietnamese boat people in West Germany; North Vietnamese contract workers in East Germany: Two groups who have historically hated each other yet somehow ended up in the same place after German reunification. Spanning past to present, Who Are Outsiders offers a journalist's compelling, in-depth look at the all-too-relevant topic of immigration.

”



Huang
Wen-Ling
黃文鈴

Huang Wen-Ling, a seven-year resident of Berlin, left Taiwan to interview refugees at the front line. The recipient of various research and writing grants from the Taiwanese and German governments, she previously worked as a reporter at Taiwanese newspapers and is now a correspondent for Deutsche Welle, a writer, and a translator.

UKRAINE'S IMPOSSIBLE WAR: A FIGHT FOR SURVIVAL

烏克蘭的不可能戰爭： 反抗，所以存在

* 2023 Golden Tripod Award (Best Editor)

The Crimean crisis of 2014 had barely ended when the largest military conflict since World War II broke out in Europe - the war between Russia and Ukraine. The ensuing wave of refugees, fake news, and populist politicians taking advantage of the situation have all played on the sensitivities of the world's citizens, but it is Taiwan - which *The Economist* called "the most dangerous place on Earth" - that understands Ukraine's situation best.

Compiled from five months of reporting at the Ukrainian front by a team from *The Reporter*, Taiwan's most authoritative independent media outlet, the book outlines each of the key factors in the war, starting with the tense hundred days after the war began and then examining events according to geographical location and in chronological order. Each of Ukraine's big cities, for example, was faced with a different wartime situation due to historical differences and political affiliations; Poland, which has been both enemy and friend to Ukraine for thousands of years, has now offered Ukraine a helping hand, their motivation the shared threat posed by their authoritarian neighbor; and in interviews, German lawmakers' analyses have shown how Germany's longstanding energy policy of relying on Russian imports led to its loss of strategic power in the war. Finally, the book examines how Taiwan and other nations threatened by totalitarian states should take a long look at themselves at war's end to reconsider the importance of strategic planning and fact-checking.

In addition to *The Reporter* team's interviews and reports from the front line, this book also includes experts' in-depth commentary on a variety of topics that will help readers to understand contemporary warfare, as well as to reconstruct the faces and choices of every individual in the war.



Category: Reportage
Publisher: SpringHill
Date: 8/2022
Rights contact:
bft.fiction.nonfiction@moc.gov.tw
Pages: 424
Length: 184,000 characters
(approx. 119,600 words in English)

“

The 2022 war in Ukraine that shocked the international community also mirrors tense post-Cold War relations. A team from The Reporter, Taiwan's most authoritative independent media outlet, based this book on their frontline reporting. Applying an Asian-Pacific perspective, they break down for readers how a totalitarian state conducts warfare.

”

Text by Liu Chih-Hsin 劉致昕



Liu Chih-Hsin, a graduate of National Chengchi University's international relations program, previously worked as a reporter for the Taiwan bureau of the *Financial Times*. Currently the deputy editor-in-chief of *The Reporter*, Liu has received numerous awards for his work in journalism, including the Taiwan Ministry of Culture's Golden Tripod Award for excellence in publishing, and awards from the Foundation for Excellence in Journalism and the Society of Publishers in Asia (SOPA).



Text by The Reporter 《報導者》團隊

Taiwan's first non-profit online media outlet established by a charitable foundation, *The Reporter* is dedicated to investigative journalism and in-depth reporting in the public sphere.



Photo by Yang Tzu-Lai 楊子磊

Yang Tzu-Lai is a graduate of the Tainan University of the Arts Department of Art History. He has won a Taiwan Excellent Journalism Award, a Vivian Wu Journalism Award, a SOPA Award for Excellence in Photography, and Best News Photo of the Year in the Taiwan Press Photographer Association's annual photo contest.



Edited by Sherry Hsueh-Li Lee 李雪莉

Sherry Hsueh-Li Lee is editor-in-chief of *The Reporter* and an adjunct assistant professor at National Taiwan University's Graduate Institute of Journalism. She has won numerous awards, including a Taiwan Excellent Journalism Award, a SOPA Award for Editorial Excellence, a Hong Kong Human Rights Press Award, and the Taipei International Book Exhibition Grand Prize Editor Award.

RANGES FAR AND HIGH: ON THE PHYTOGEOGRAPHICAL ORIGIN OF TAIWAN'S MONTANE PLANTS

橫斷臺灣： 追尋臺灣高山植物地理起源

* 2024 Golden Tripod Award

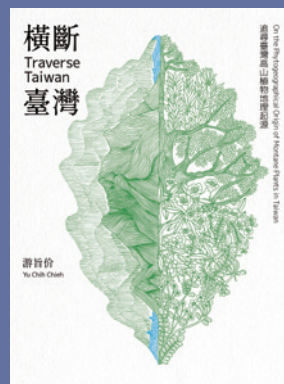
* 2023 Openbook Award

For two decades, the Hengduan Mountains on the eastern edge of the Pan-Tibetan Plateau have been a hot spot for global diversity research due to what might be the oldest mountain vegetation in the world. Although Taiwan's mountains formed much later than the Hengduan Mountains, they are home to many of the ancient montane plants from interior East Asia. Because the two places have similar altitudes and latitudes as well as vegetation with a shared biogeographic origin, they represent a "disjunct distribution" that has increasingly gained the attention of the natural science community.

The term "disjunction" means that closely related species of plants and animals appear in far-apart places separated by geographical barriers unsuitable for plant growth or spread. Because climate changes over the course of millions of years created land bridges at various times, however, plants and animals could expand into other areas by different routes. According to the author, these "dynamic" origins and paths of spread are the key to Taiwan's endemic plants and animals.

In this book, Yu Chih-Chieh shares an account of his field research in Taiwan's mountains, which is accompanied by his explanatory notes. The reader first learns about plant groups unique to East Asia, such as mountain rhododendrons, oaks, and barberry, then follows the author to the vast mountain regions of the Pan-Tibetan Highlands. There Yu investigates the geographical origins of Taiwan's montane plants, attempting to clarify the relationships between alpine plant species of the Himalayas, the Hengduan Mountains, and Taiwan.

In chapters featuring information-packed montane plant case studies, *Ranges Far and High* draws on diverse fields, including geology, climate, fossils, and DNA research, to decode the ancient memories of distant places concealed in Taiwan's alpine flora, while the author's photos of ecosystems and mountains give readers additional insight into the plants' past and present.



Category: Nature

Publisher: SpringHill

Date: 7/2023

Rights contact:

bft.fiction.nonfiction@moc.gov.tw

Pages: 464

Length: 140,000 characters

(approx. 91,000 words in English)



© Ito Takuro

Text by

Yu Chih-Chieh 游旨价

Naturalist and plant biologist Yu Chih-Chieh spent his early youth enjoying the wildernesses of Taiwan, and has dedicated his professional life to educate the world on global biogeography. His PhD dissertation won multiple awards; he is also the author of *The Odyssey of Taiwan's Montane Plants*.

Illustration by

Huang Han-Yau 黃瀚嶢

Huang Han-Yau, a graduate of the School of Forestry at National Taiwan University, is currently a scientific illustrator specializing in ecology as well as a community university lecturer whose work has appeared in publications related to environmental education. He is the author of several books, including the ecological-themed children's picture book *Little Black Dots on the Fence*, two illustrated guides, one on the environment and another on ecology, and a narrative non-fiction book, *The Lost River*, which won the Taiwan Literature Award in 2023.

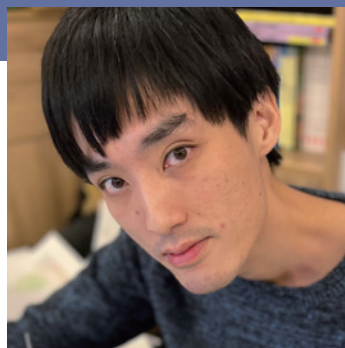


Illustration by

Ong Jin-Yao 王錦堯

Ong Jin-Yao, originally from Kluang, Johor, Malaysia, is a graduate of National Taiwan University's Department of Life Sciences whose interest in scientific drawing was first piqued in university. Currently a part-time graphic artist, he focuses mainly on botanical illustration.

“ A biogeographic exploration spanning millions of years, this book investigates the origins of Taiwan's flora and fauna and the island's incredible biodiversity. Fascinating information is interspersed with insights on the beauty of the natural world. ”

KUROSHIO ODYSSEY: A MESMERIZING TIME-SPACE VOYAGE FROM TAIWAN'S EAST COAST TO THE NORTH PACIFIC

黑潮震盪：

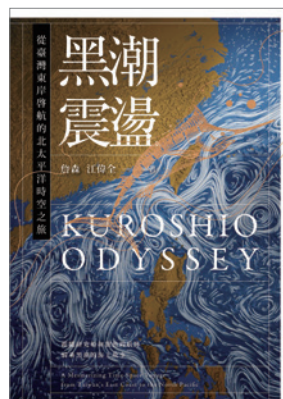
從臺灣東岸啟航的北太平洋時空之旅

【跟隨研究船和旗魚的航跡，騎乘黑潮的海上故事】

The Kuroshio Current is the world's second largest ocean current. Taiwan's varied, complex coastal terrain has made research on the current flowing past its shores into a repository of marine scientific data worth knowing about. Guided by their enthusiasm for scientific knowledge visualization, two of Taiwan's top researchers in the field have drawn on nearly thirty years of marine science research to create this invaluable book with easy-to-understand illustrations.

Grounded in solid academic theory and featuring an impressive layout, the book provides a well-organized look at relevant ocean research over the years, plus explanations of the mysterious Kuroshio Current's directional flow and seasonally influenced ecosystem. Text and images help readers to understand the current's complex hydrographic structure - resembling a cross-section of a layer cake - as well as how an international struggle for sea power affects the progress of scientific research. Interspersed with these explanations are the authors' fascinating stories about their work and life aboard ocean research vessels, lending this science-based text a human touch. The authors have also joined forces with hardworking fishermen to help accurately predict environmental changes, and even spoke with director Ang Lee about how Pi's boat should drift in the movie *Life of Pi*.

The authors, who have studied the ocean for many years, have found that uncovering the ocean's secrets is often an easier task than getting people interested in them. This book introduces research on the Kuroshio Current in a format the general public can understand, hoping to make marine science in Taiwan more accessible and also to narrow the gap between what experts and the public know about the ocean. After all, our planet's oceans affect everyone.



Category: Science
Publisher: Yeren
Date: 12/2023
Rights contact:
bft.fiction.nonfiction@moc.gov.tw
Pages: 264
Length: 107,000 characters
(approx. 69,550 words in English)

“

Two of Taiwan's top marine science researchers have channeled their passion for knowledge visualization to outstanding effect. Detailed graphics, myriad on-location photos, and colorful stories make this marine science book an excellent fit for readers everywhere.

”

Jan Sen 詹森

Jan Sen, a native of Kaohsiung, is a professor at the Institute of Oceanography, National Taiwan University (NTU). He was previously deputy director of the Taiwan Ocean Research Institute at NARLabs and director of NTU's Institute of Oceanography. His areas of specialization include currents and tides in the Taiwan Strait, tidal waves in the seas of East Asia, internal waves in the South China Sea, and Kuroshio Current variations. Author of over 100 papers, he has been honored with Taiwan's National Science and Technology Council's Outstanding Research Award.



Chiang Wei-Chuan, a native of Singang, Taitung, is currently an associate researcher at the Taiwan Ministry of Agriculture's Fisheries Research Institute. He graduated from the Institute of Oceanography at National Taiwan University and has held posts as an associate professor at the National Taitung University and as a civil servant at the Fisheries Agency. Dedicated to the preservation and transmission of eastern Taiwan's fishery culture, he has contributed to documentaries on this topic and on popular science for the Taiwan Public Television Service and National Geographic Channel.

Chiang Wei-Chuan 江偉全

TAIWAN'S BADLANDS: THE CULTURE AND NATURAL HISTORY OF LOW-ELEVATION MOUNTAINS IN TAIWAN

臺灣惡地誌：

見證臺灣造山運動與四百年淺山文明生態史

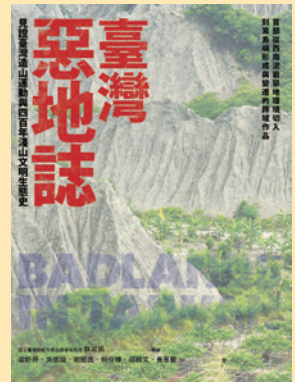
* 2023 Golden Tripod Award

* 2023 Taipei Book Fair Award

Legend has it that the mudstone badlands in southwestern Taiwan, coated in a thin layer of powdery salt, reflect moonlight. The barren land then turns a silvery white, like the surface of the moon - hence the local name for these places: "moon worlds". Close to twice the size of Guam in area, the southwest badlands are known for producing guavas and green jujubes, despite a relatively sparse population. How is this agricultural success story possible? The authors of *Taiwan's Badlands* tell readers the story of these mudstone badlands and the people who live there.

Divided into six parts, the book introduces the geological formations and diverse landscapes of the badlands and the area's plant and animal ecologies, examines how human settlements have developed in response to environmental constraints over the past four centuries, and then looks at how those same environmental constraints led communities to develop unique agricultural, culinary, and religious cultures - the previously mentioned guavas and green jujubes, for example, are agricultural products farmers grew once they understood the characteristics of the local soil. Finally, the book discusses the local environmental movement and civic science education, the development of geoparks, and the ecological conservation activities initiated by local residents.

Su Shew-Jiuan, one of the book's authors, believes that people living in the badlands aren't trying to conquer nature but instead recognize the land's limits. They then practice sustainable development in the spirit of "land stewardship", an attitude fundamental to environmental resilience in the face of change. Their attitude to life can also help us to think about ways to deal with the vagaries of climate change, and thus inspire us to live in harmony with the natural environment.



Category: Science

Publisher: Yeren

Date: 8/2022

Rights contact:

bft.fiction.nonfiction@moc.gov.tw

Pages: 288

Length: 102,775 characters

(approx. 66,800 words in English)

“ Seemingly desolate, Taiwan’s badlands are in fact teeming with life. Over hundreds of years, the people who live there have found ways to exist in harmony with the natural environment. Their story has the power to reach beyond Taiwan and inspire the whole world to think about environmental resilience. ”

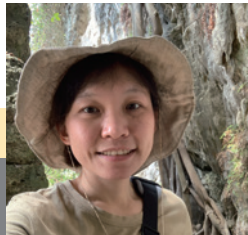
Su Shew-Jiuan
蘇淑娟

Su Shew-Jiuan earned her PhD from the Department of Geography and Anthropology at Louisiana State University in the United States. Currently a professor in the Department of Geography at National Taiwan Normal University, she is deeply committed to discussing and raising awareness of environmental issues and formulating slow and resilient solutions.



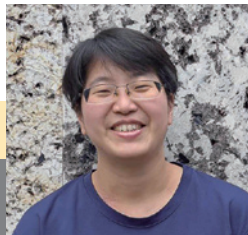
Liang Shu-Ting
梁舒婷

Liang Shu-Ting is a graduate of the Studio for Research and Praxis in Lebenswelt in the Graduate Institute of Architecture at Tainan National University of the Arts and a founding member of Moon World Farmer, a local business specializing in agricultural products and eco-tourism. She hopes this book will introduce people to the natural and cultural landscapes of her hometown.



Wu Yi-Hsuan
吳依璇

Wu Yi-Hsuan earned a master’s degree from the Institute of Oceanography at National Taiwan University. From time to time, she also writes popular science articles.



Liu Hong-Yi
劉閔逸

Liu Hong-Yi earned a master’s degree in geography at National Taiwan Normal University. His areas of interest are caring for the natural environment and the crucial role badland ponds play in rural ecological development.



Ke Ling-Hua
柯伶樺

Ke Ling-Hua earned a master’s degree in Life Sciences at National Chung Hsing University. An outdoor activities enthusiast since childhood, she now is working hard for ecological conservation as the head of Wildervalley Environmental Consultants.



Hew Shun-Win
邱峻文

Hew Shun-Win earned a master’s degree in wildlife conservation from National Pingtung University of Science and Technology. He is currently an ecologist conducting research in mountain wilderness areas.



Huang Hui-Min
黃惠敏

Huang Hui-Min is currently president of Kaohsiung City Matoushan Nature and Humanity Association. She is active in environmental social movements and work that protects the natural and human ecologies of badland areas.



BONFIRE ISLAND: UNTOLD STORIES OF TAIWAN'S MARTIAL LAW-ERA POLITICAL PRISON

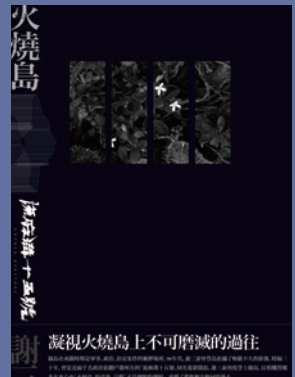
火燒島： 流麻溝十五號

No. 15 Liomagou was once the address for political prisoners on “Bonfire Island” – otherwise known as Green Island, the location of Taiwan’s infamous martial law-era prison. During the years of martial law, approximately 2,000 prisoners, both male and female, were incarcerated there. A film adaptation released in 2022, called *Bonfire Island: Untold Herstory*, tells the stories of female political prisoners imprisoned there in the 1950s.

The photos in this collection are divided into three sections: movie stills that are “not stills”, documentary photographs taken on an initial visit to the island after martial law was lifted, and individual portraits of political prisoners from that period. Penetrating and insightful, the black and white photography provides an unflinching look at the island’s indelible past, giving viewers cause to think about and reflect on historical memory.

In addition to showcasing the photographer’s inimitable style, this book uses time as warp and woof, weaving together past events with the photographer’s personal observations to reinterpret this previously invisible history. Everything here offers a new perspective, from the “snapshots in time” that attempt to figure out the past by reconstructing history, to the official, whitewashed version of “history” that prettified the facts once martial law ended and the prison was opened to the public. Even the timeworn faces and lives of the prisoners’ years after their release are included.

Throughout his long career as a photojournalist, Hsieh San-Tai has used his camera lens to document many significant events in Taiwan’s more recent history. As a native of Penghu, an outlying island much like Green Island, he undoubtedly brings his own unique wit and wisdom to this photography book.



Category: Photography

Publisher: Walkers

Date: 7/2022

Rights contact:

bft.fiction.nonfiction@moc.gov.tw

Pages: 184

Length: 5,000 characters

(approx. 3,250 words in English)

“

Hsieh San-Tai's ingenious lens takes readers thirty years back in time to "sites of injustice", offering a glimpse of Taiwan's martial law era and an almost invisible piece of history...

”

Hsieh San-Tai

謝三泰

Hsieh San-Tai, born in 1958 in Penghu, has been active in photojournalism for many years, witnessing the course of Taiwan's democratic movement through his lens. More recently, he has focused on themes such as ordinary people's lives, laborer friends, disadvantaged groups, and protecting the environment. By capturing them on film, he hopes to draw more attention to events and the things happening to people in Taiwan.



THE DREAM MESSENGER

忘川郵政

Yang Tzu-Chi was orphaned at an early age when his mother died. Though he is honest and kind, his life is a mess: not only has he just been fired, but he is beaten up, left unconscious, and taken to the hospital after a strange man lectures him. Later, Tzu-Chi receives several mysterious letters about a new job with the Oblivion Letter Service. He dismisses these as a prank until the strange man shows up in a dream and tells him to report for work, or else!

The Oblivion Letter Service turns out to be a mail service that bridges the gap between life and death. Its “dream messengers” write and deliver letters on behalf of anyone recently deceased whose regrets weigh on their hearts. The messenger summarizes the person’s thoughts on dream letter paper, seals the letter with a small piece of the person’s soul, and delivers the letter by dream. Tzu-Chi has no choice but to accept a job no mortal has ever done.

In his new position, he meets clients of every description: an older man worried about his reputation after falling out with his sworn brothers; a mother lacking the courage to face her son; an entrepreneur who thought his biological mother had abandoned him.... Tzu-Chi’s longing to see his own long-dead mother leads him to search for her. He also finds himself drawn into a political struggle between gods. Who, he wonders, gave him this job? Where is his mother’s soul? Does some bigger conspiracy lurk unseen?

X. Y. Chou makes superb use of structure, tugging on readers’ heartstrings with this blend of fantasy, Taiwanese folk beliefs, and dreams. In a story that plumbs the depths of love, longing, and regret, she probes the boundaries between good and evil, allowing her protagonist to overcome self-doubt and discover himself and his own worth in the process.



Category: Commercial Fiction

Publisher: Cite Original

Date: 9/2023

Rights contact:

bft.fiction.nonfiction@moc.gov.tw

Pages: 336

Length: 152,982 characters

(approx. 99,400 words in English)



X. Y. Chou

周小洮

X. Y. Chou is a gifted writer of fantasy and adventure novels. Her latest work won first prize in the fantasy category of the 2023 KadoKado Novel Award.

“

An unemployed man stumbles into a job as a dream messenger, helping those who have died tell someone the thoughts they left unsaid in life and let go of their regrets. In the process, he discovers the secret of his own birth.

”

CHEF'S MENU

主廚的菜單

Cheng Yu, an outwardly aloof sous chef at a high-end restaurant, receives a call from a stranger one day during a meetup game at a gay bar, after which he starts dating Chi Shao. Their relationship is far from smooth sailing, however: Shao, who always has an eye for the main chance, flirts with his boss Lin Tsang-Hsuan to get ahead in his career. Yu hardens his heart and breaks up with Shao, just as he has to pull himself together to deal with sudden unemployment after the hot-tempered head chef fires him out of the blue. Unfortunately for Yu, even his search for a new job hits roadblocks, and the main obstacle turns out to be his romantic rival, Lin Tsang-Hsuan!

Wherever Yu goes, he seems to bump into Tsang-Hsuan, a cynical, big-business financial consultant who refuses to take life seriously and keeps causing trouble. First Yu happens upon Tsang-Hsuan just in time to rescue him from a handsome bully in a dark alley, and then he wakes up at Tsang-Hsuan's house, dead drunk and disheveled! Tsang-Hsuan's every move is ambiguous in intent, but Yu can't help thinking he's interested in something more: he keeps sending Yu hot selfies and following him around wherever he goes, reminding Yu of his childhood dog. Tsang-Hsuan's eyes even light up when he smells the culinary treats Yu whips up. The chef's tender heart is quietly melting... but Yu wonders what's really in Tsang-Hsuan's heart, and where this relationship is taking them.

Chef's Menu is a richly layered story that boasts not just male multi-partner relationships but business intrigues and mouthwatering descriptions of fine cuisine. The slowly building emotions of the two protagonists draw readers in, while the erotic descriptions turn up the heat, making this a must read.



Category: MM Romance

Publisher: Cite Original

Date: 6/2019

Rights contact:

bft.fiction.nonfiction@moc.gov.tw

Pages: 656

Length: 292,381 characters

(approx. 190,000 words in English)

Rights sold:

Thai (Gemini), Game (ican)

Yukimori Cheng

程雪森

Yukimori Cheng is an online forum content writer with a talent for male romance and erotic themes combined with elements such as time travel, healing, and the supernatural. Her novel *Chef's Menu* has sold over 10,000 copies since its publication and received numerous positive reviews on online forums. Rights have been sold in Thailand, where it was published in 2023.

“

A hard-working, no-nonsense sous chef at a high-end restaurant is first cheated on by his boyfriend, and then fired by his unpredictable boss. His life is already shrouded in gloom, and now he has to deal with ... the advances of his love rival?

”



LAST GOODBYE

最後的再見

Always causing trouble in school, tough girl Tao Tao isn't afraid of anyone, not even the teachers. Ku Kai-Feng is Tao Tao's polar opposite - not only is he the principal's son, he's also the best-looking boy in school. Sparks inevitably fly during their frequent run-ins, especially when Kai-Feng happens to spoil Tao Tao's attempt to teach a friend's cheating boyfriend and the "other woman" a lesson. The tough girl and the top student form an unexpected bond, never dreaming that their many confrontations will lead to love.

When Kai-Feng, a year older than Tao Tao, makes it into the number-one medical school, he leaves to start university life but makes a pact to be with Tao Tao if she's admitted, too. The former slacker changes her ways so that she and Kai-Feng can stay together. Several years later, however, life's daily grind has taken its toll, causing them to drift apart.

After the couple splits up, Tao Tao hears nothing from Kai-Feng for three years. When he reappears, he has someone else's face but all of their shared memories. Who is this man? Why does he have Kai-Feng's memories? Will Ku Kai-Feng and Tao Tao be reunited?

Last Goodbye is a touching love story that blends fantasy elements with fast-paced suspense and unexpected plot twists certain to keep you on the edge of your seat. Fans of campus romantic comedies or the angst subgenre won't want to miss this book.



Category: Romance

Publisher: Cite Original

Date: 1/2019

Rights contact:

bft.fiction.nonfiction@moc.gov.tw

Pages: 304

Length: 140,415 characters

(approx. 91,300 words in English)

Rights sold: Film, TV Series (Machi Xcelsior Studios)



“

Three years after their break-up, a young couple is unable to forget one another. When he dies in a car crash, they share one last miraculous interlude.

”

Macchiato 瑪琪朵

Macchiato is a bestselling author of romance novels. Her books have sold more than 140,000 copies in Taiwan. Publication, film, and television rights for several of her books have already been sold outside of Taiwan. Her novel *Summer Lemongrass* was released as a film in 2024 and has been published in Korean, Indonesian, and Vietnamese. Her web series *My Little Princess*, which first appeared online in 2016, was published as a novel in Thailand in 2019.

THE DAY THE MOON STOOD STILL

今天月亮暫時停止轉動

High-school student Pai Yu-Jan is secretly seeing a boy at her school who has a girlfriend. During one of their frequent trysts in the school's rooftop garden, she bumps into a handsome older schoolmate, Yeh Chen. Just when she's certain her secret is about to be exposed, Yu-Jan realizes Chen is a ghost only she can see.

The mysterious Chen tells her that he jumped to his death twenty years ago. Since then he has wandered the school as a ghost, meeting many students with regrets who wished to change the past. His instructions to make a wish on the moon gave them the chance to travel back in time and reverse events. He has remained here all this time waiting for Lien Yu-Chin, a girl whose love for him drove her to kill herself shortly after his death.

Yu-Jan only half believes what Chen has told her, but then he suddenly disappears one day. Because she misses spending time with her ghost friend, she too makes a wish on the moon in order to see him again. When she wakes up the next day, she finds that she has in fact traveled back in time to the day Chen killed himself, and that she is now Lien Yu-Chin. Even more strange is that Chen and Yu-Chin are not a couple! She is now trapped in the past, repeating the events of that fateful day. How many secrets are there for her to uncover? How will she break the loop and return to her own time?

Bestselling author Misa has created a high school love story combining fantasy, time travel, and suspense to depict the disorientation of youth, love in all its bittersweet aspects, and friendship put to the test. As readers unravel the mystery alongside the main character, they will follow a path of self-exploration and experience the growth that comes with interpersonal relationships.



Category: Young Adult
Publisher: Cite Original
Date: 5/2021
Rights contact:
bft.fiction.nonfiction@moc.gov.tw
Pages: 256
Length: 91,416 characters
(approx. 59,400 words in English)
Rights sold: Film (Flash Forward)

Misa is a bestselling author working in the genres of romance, horror, and fantasy whose work has been enthusiastically embraced by Young Adult readers. Her books have sold over 420,000 copies in Taiwan. Her novel *My Best Friend's Breakfast*, based on a true love story posted on an online forum, was made into a movie released in Taiwan in 2022. Rights to her other works have also been sold in multiple countries.

Misa



“

A high school student encounters a ghostly schoolmate wandering the campus. When her mysterious friend disappears one day, leaving unanswered questions, she follows his instructions and wishes on the moon. She subsequently finds herself trapped in the past on the day he died, unable to escape...

”

YUHUM OF THE WARRIORS

魂魄

* 2023 Golden Tripod Award

Out hunting with his friends one day, Yupas, an Atayal tribesman, has an accident and feels his soul leave his body. When he regains consciousness, he encounters an old man he once met many years ago in the mountains. The old man is Kbuta, a hero of Atayal legend - a traditional soul summoning ritual has evidently called Yupas back in time to the Slamaw tribe of a hundred and thirty years earlier.

Under Kbuta's tutelage, Yupas studies the traditional ways, learning the tribe's myths, legends, and history of mass migrations. By participating in the daily lives of his ancestors, including their hunting parties and headhunting practices, he develops a better understanding of how the Atayal people view the soul and the relationship between man and nature.

Yupas's amazing experience is not a wholly positive one, however - one day, the sound of Japanese gunfire echoes across the mountain and gradually approaches. Before long, the tribe is compelled to take up arms and fight against Japanese colonial aggression in what will prove to be just the start of a twenty-year war. Keenly aware that they may not have the strength to withstand the powerful Japanese army, the Atayal must nonetheless fight for their very survival. As for Yupas, he must bear witness to this heavy history...

This is Yupas Watan's first novel, written after many years of field research. It is also Taiwan's first historical war novel written by an Atayal elder. Yupas uses first-person narration to lead readers on this journey of the soul, carrying them back in time to experience the blood and tears of war and the iridescent brilliance of the Atayal spirit.



Category: Historical Fiction
Publisher: Taiwan Intermininds
Date: 11/2022
Rights contact:
bft.fiction.nonfiction@moc.gov.tw
Pages: 498
Length: 292,230 characters
(approx. 189,950 words in English)

“

Twenty years of research and another decade of writing went into this historical novel, the first in the history of Taiwanese literature to focus on the Atayal perspective. Creating a written history for an indigenous people who have no writing system, it also documents a language at risk of disappearing.

”



Yupas Watan 尤巴斯·瓦旦

Yupas Watan is a Miaoli Atayal tribe member and cultural historiographer. Since attending a PhD program in the Department of Anthropology at National Taiwan University, he has held part-time teaching positions at multiple universities. He has for many years devoted himself to recording the oral life histories of Atayal elders, as well as researching the history of Atayal migration and wars, their witchcraft culture, and changes in the Atayal language. Through his writing, he hopes to pass down Atayal culture to future generations.

WE, A WOMAN

我們 · 一個女人

We, a *Woman* is a historical novel with an unusual structure: It opens with a stream of consciousness “prelude” – fragments of many women’s emotions from ancient times to the present. Afterward, three female protagonists take turns narrating their life stories.

Born in the seventeenth century, Ping Gu is strong and capable, her second husband a pirate leader who controls dozens of ships. Together, the couple build a business empire at sea, yet they worry about the consequences of flouting government regulations. They decide to seek out that legendary paradise on earth, Taiwan....

Yu Ying is a singsong girl. Alone in the world, she falls for a handsome Communist and frequently provides cover stories for him and his comrades. After he disappears during World War II, she flees Taipei. She then meets a wealthy socialite whose husband has also disappeared and realizes they are waiting for the same man....

As a little girl, Khim is given to relatives who adopt her. Later, she bows to her biological mother’s wishes and marries the son of her adoptive parents, despite her love for another man. The young couple, at odds since childhood, both suffer in the marriage. Decades pass, and Khim’s pain ebbs with them. She learns to let go of her many grudges and decides to become a nun....

The book ends with a “postlude” similar to the prelude, offering insights to women around the world and their complex destinies – these are stories worth knowing just as much as those of men.

Like her previous books, Yen Min-Ru’s third novel reflects her inquiring spirit and ruminations on history. By alternating between the three protagonists’ first-person narratives, this innovative historical novel allows readers to more easily imagine themselves in the characters’ situations. A German translation has been released by the Swiss publishing house Prong Press.



Category: Historical Fiction
Publisher: Showwe Information
Date: 10/2018
Rights contact:
bft.fiction.nonfiction@moc.gov.tw
Pages: 292
Length: 144,094 characters
(approx. 93,661 words in English)
Rights sold: German (Prong)

Yen Min-Ru has long lived in Switzerland and is active in media circles. As well as writing for Chinese media, she is the first Taiwanese author to publish in the *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*, her article on China for that prestigious newspaper garnering widespread attention. In 2009, she also became the first Taiwanese writer invited to participate in the Château de Lavigny writers' residency in Switzerland.

Yen Min-Ru

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Invisible to history, women were once just a group of indistinct faces. In We, a Woman, we meet three women from different eras, each of them brilliant in her own way.

”

SUGAR BUN ISLAND

甜麵包島

* 2024 Taipei Book Fair Award

Lu-pin, a Taiwanese writer who resides in Canada, lived on a Caribbean island for three years due to her husband's job. She realized that the remote island nation and Taiwan shared certain characteristics - both are located in the tropics or subtropics, were once colonies, and are home to people influenced by colonial cultures. After her return to Canada, she wrote three short stories set in a fictional Caribbean nation called Sugar Bun Island, based on her memories and observations of life on the island.

In "Dry Season", an older woman wants to buy land, build a house, and live out her retirement years on her native island after many years of hard work in the UK. Unfortunately, nothing turns out according to plan. "Phases of the Moon" looks at island life from the perspective of a white Canadian professor who dies unexpectedly and becomes a ghost. Although the truth about her death is soon known thanks to who she was, she must still deal with loss and sadness. "Cashew Bay" begins with the sea view from a prison window. The prisoner, a man from a lower-class background, reflects on the misfortunes that have pulled him into ever deeper difficulties.

Reflecting various aspects of post-colonial society, the stories in this book describe how the intersection of cultures affects and is affected by human nature: the subtly superior attitude of a lower-class migrant worker toward her compatriots and immigrant neighbors after returning from a life abroad; a nation's colonial legacy expressed as a white woman watching the world go on as usual after her death; and the outsiders who, regardless of their intent, change the fate of a mixed-race man for the worse. Lu-pin confronts cruel reality with poetic flare, these stories of a fictional island nation allowing us to rediscover ourselves.



Category: Short Stories

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Rights contact:

bft.fiction.nonfiction@moc.gov.tw

Pages: 248

Length: 106,800 characters
(approx. 69,420 words in English)

“ Joy and sorrow are interwoven in the spiritual landscapes of both those who have left and those who have come to the island, where they become life's everyday details. This book is dedicated to all colonized islands. ”

Lu-pin

鹿苹

Lu-pin was born in Taipei in 1970. Still active in the field of graphic design, she earned a bachelor's degree in visual communication from the Académie Charpentier in France and a master's degree in graphic and multimedia design from Université Laval in Canada. As a writer, she frequently draws on her abundant experiences living in foreign places as a source of inspiration for her poems and short fiction. Her publications include a collection of poetry titled *Wandering Wall* and two short story collections - *The Left-hand Land* and *Sugar Bun Island*. She currently lives in Canada.





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