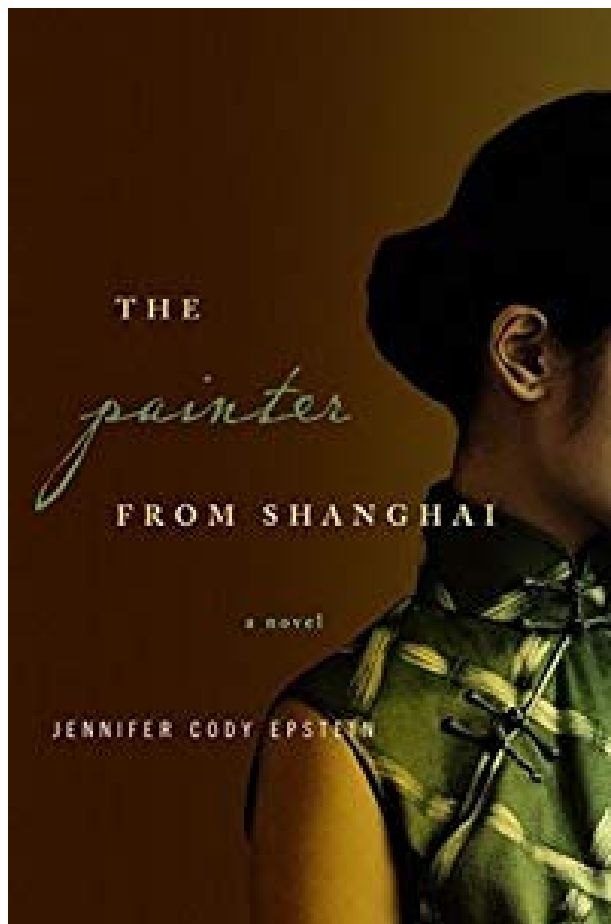


The Painter From Shanghai



Pages:	416
Genre:	Historical
Language	English
Author:	Jennifer Cody Epstein
ISBN10:	0393065286
Goodreads Rating:	3.77
Published:	March 31st 2008 by W.W. Norton & Company
ISBN13:	9780393065282

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Barnes & Noble Discover Great New Writers Pan Yuliang was a girl with no dreams. Her parents were taken from her at a young age, then her uncle sold her into prostitution; it was enough for many years just to cope and survive. One day, fate places a kind gentleman in her path, and she begins to discover the city outside the brothel and the world beyond China's borders. As a larger canvas of life emerges, Pan realizes that she has something of value to say -- and a talent through which she can express herself. From Shanghai to Paris, Pan is challenged by the harsh realities in politics, art, and love, and must rely on her own strength to develop her talent. In so doing, she takes a relatively ordinary life and makes it extraordinary. A work of fiction -- but based on the life and work of a real artist -- *The Painter from Shanghai* transports readers to early-20th-century China, a culture marked by oppression. Epstein has proven herself a shining talent in this first novel, tackling such weighty questions as: How does a talented artist blossom, even under repressive conditions? What is art, and what is love? What makes a life well lived? The answers form a mesmerizing portrait of one young woman's journey to find herself and to nourish her creative talents despite appreciable odds. (Summer 2008 Selection)