



# Message from an Unknown Chinese Mother: Stories of Loss and Love

*Xinran*

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**Message from an Unknown Chinese Mother: Stories of Loss and Love** Xinran

Now in paperback one of the most stirring accounts of the lives of Chinese women since *Wild Swans* “full of heart-rending tales....shocking, simply told...a very powerful polemic” (*The New York Times Book Review*).

Following her internationally bestselling book *The Good Women of China*, Xinran has written one of the most powerful accounts of the lives of Chinese women. She has gained entrance to the most pained, secret chambers in the hearts of Chinese mothers—students, successful businesswomen, midwives, peasants—who, whether as a consequence of the single-child policy, destructive age-old traditions, or hideous economic necessity, have given up their daughters. Xinran beautifully portrays the “extra-birth guerrillas” who travel the roads and the railways, evading the system, trying to hold on to more than one baby; naïve young girl students who have made life-wrecking mistakes; the “pebble mother” on the banks of the Yangtze River still looking into the depths for her stolen daughter; peasant women rejected by their families because they can’t produce a male heir; and Little Snow, the orphaned baby fostered by Xinran but confiscated by the state.

For parents of adopted Chinese children and for the children themselves, this is an indispensable, powerful, and intensely moving book. *Message from an Unknown Chinese Mother* is powered by love and by heartbreak and will stay with readers long after they have turned the final page.

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