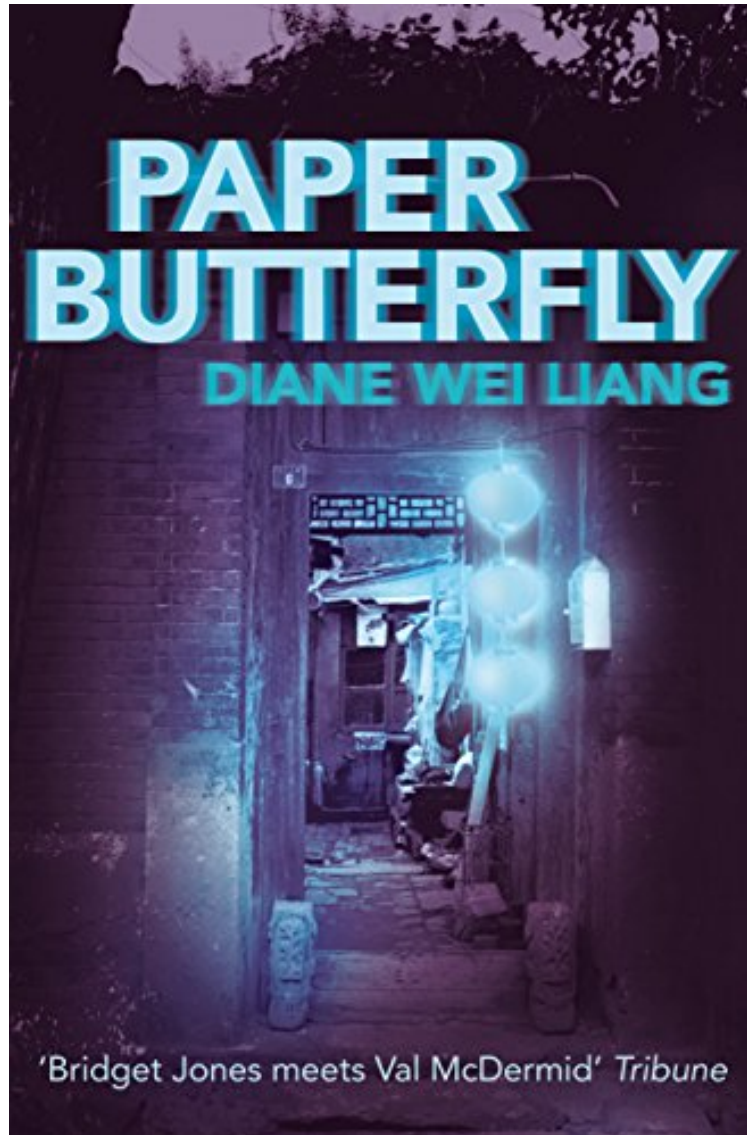


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Paper Butterfly (English Edition)

Von Diane Wei Liang

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Von Diane Wei Liang : Paper Butterfly (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Paper Butterfly (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A Lady Detective in Contemporary ChinaVon NachtigallThis is one of those rare novels, which provide deep insights in the local life of China while following the investigation of Mei Wang, a chinese PI.This is no typical PI story with hardboiled, wisecracking or misearble detectives fighting the evil around. The PI business is illegal in communist

China and as it is Mei Wang finds her way around cleverly. As the plot evolves around the murder of a rising Star in the Beijing music business, her investigation is centered on her sensible approach of witnesses and intelligent deductions. The social upheavels by the cultural revolution and the aftermath of the Tianmen Square Massacre play a vivid part, too. The author, Diane Wei Liang, is a gifted observer of the ways people adapt to the contemporary chinese history. There is the mother who gave up her husband to the revolutionaries in order to save her children; or the best friend who betrays his childhood companion to get promoted. At the same time glimpses of the old traditions show everywhere, as life in old neighbourhoods, where nothing much seemed to have changed, or buying bottle gourds for good luck. Liang shows the coexistence of corruption and extravagance among the westernised high-rises and the uprooted and depraved living among the impoverished classes. But there's never a pointed finger or moral righteousness about her. The reflections on her characters are multilayered and their interactions discern the cultural restraints and traditions better than any social study. Even the language is highly refined and precise, combining deep meaning and lightness. I enjoyed the book and highly recommend it. Though deeply layered with culture and history, it is light and colourful as a Butterfly flight.

Kurzbeschreibung In the outback of China, a political activist, arrested after the Tiananmen massacre, is judged to be a reformed character and released. But Lin is a changed man in more ways than one; haunted by memories of his time in prison, and the events (and people) that put him there, he heads for the countrys capital, where he hopes to confront his demons once and for all. Mei Wang, meanwhile, is struggling to juggle the desires and demands of her family alongside the pressures of running her detective agency, and when her sister recommends her for a new case the disappearance of a gorgeous young starlet called Kaili she feels obliged to accept. Its a risky business, however, investigating the truth in a society that is still catching up with the secrets of its past. 'Mei Wang is a splendid heroine, brave and sensible. As she interviews witnesses and makes her deductions she shows her readers a fascinating glimpse of the China visitors dont see' Literary Werbetext You can't always forgive. And there are some crimes you can never forget . . . Kurzbeschreibung In the outback of China, a political activist, arrested after the Tiananmen massacre, is judged to be a reformed character and released. But Lin is a changed man in more ways than one; haunted by memories of his time in prison, and the events (and people) that put him there, he heads for the countrys capital, where he hopes to confront his demons once and for all. Mei Wang, meanwhile, is struggling to juggle the desires and demands of her family alongside the pressures of running her detective agency, and when her sister recommends her for a new case the disappearance of a gorgeous young starlet called Kaili she feels obliged to accept. Its a risky business, however, investigating the truth in a society that is still catching up with the secrets of its past. 'Mei Wang is a splendid heroine, brave and sensible. As she interviews witnesses and makes her deductions she shows her readers a fascinating glimpse of the China visitors dont see' Literary