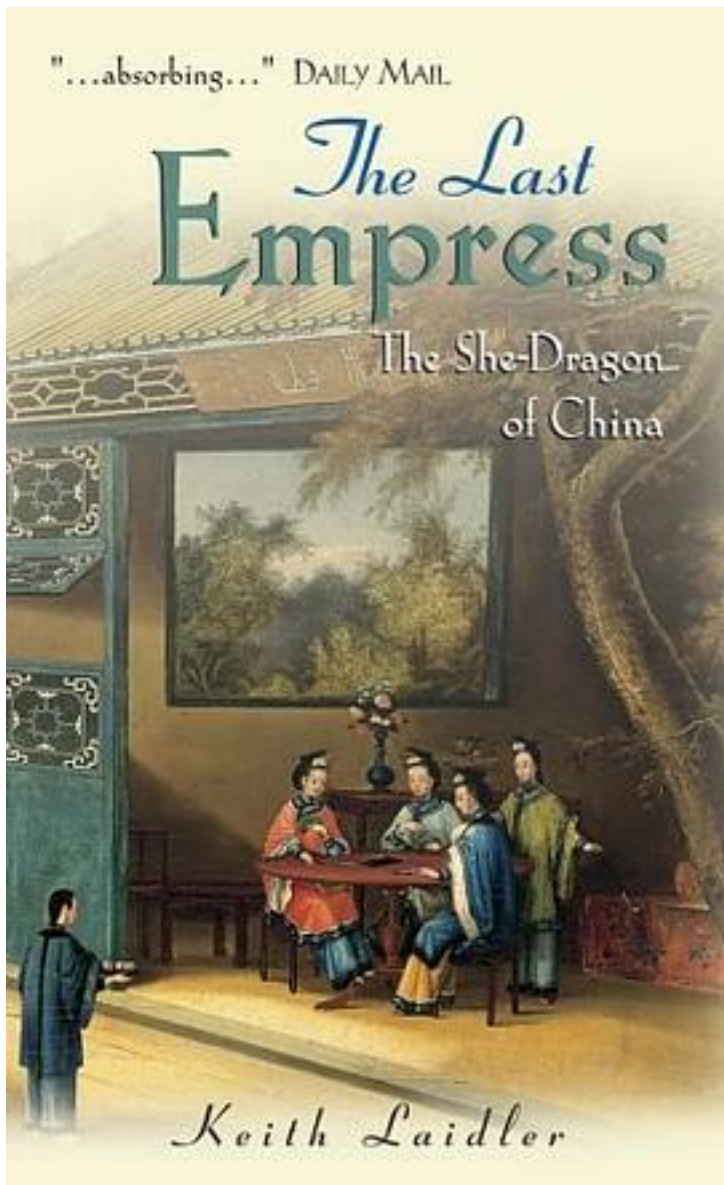


# The Last Empress



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著者:Anchee Min

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The last decades of the nineteenth century were a violent period in China's history marked by humiliating foreign incursions and domestic rebellion, ultimately ending in the demise of the Ch'ing dynasty. The only constant during this tumultuous time was the power wielded by one person, the resilient, ever-resourceful Tzu Hsi, Lady Yehonala -- or Empress Orchid, as readers came to know her in Anchee Min's critically acclaimed novel covering the first part of her life.

The Last Empress is the story of Orchid's dramatic transition from a strong-willed, instinctive young woman to a wise and politically savvy leader who ruled China for more than four decades. Moving from the intimacy of the concubine quarters into the spotlight of the world stage, Orchid must face not only the perilous condition of her empire but also a series of devastating personal losses, as first her son and then her adopted son succumb to early death. Yearning only to step aside, and yet growing constantly into her role, only she—allied with the progressives, but loyal to the conservative Manchu clan of her dynasty—can hold the nation's rival factions together.

Anchee Min offers a powerful revisionist portrait based on extensive research of one of the most important figures in Chinese history. Viciously maligned by the western press of the time as the "Dragon Lady," a manipulative, blood-thirsty woman who held onto power at all costs, the woman Min gives us is a compelling, very human leader who assumed power reluctantly, and who sacrificed all she had to protect those she loved and an empire that was doomed to die.

作者介绍:

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标签

Anchee

近代史

英文原版

中国历史

Min

人物传记

英文書

Orchid

## 评论

在圖書館借的英文書。好久沒看英文書了。

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钮咕嚕氏死前与叶赫那拉氏（慈禧）的对话很有力。清末几个皇帝都……唉……

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把慈禧写得跟治国明主一样。

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第一本让我每个字母都读进心里的书！ 角度很不一样,很pro慈禧和李鸿章,写的真的太好了！

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我怎么看怎么觉得别扭，但是还是在继续看。我要看看，这个作者要怎么意淫中国最后的一个皇太后。我试图抛弃原来的一切成见，那这书当fiction小说看。

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看完就落在了酒店，历史不可再回首，多应景

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神奇了 冷门书籍有没有 倒退三年想必我也不会再卖

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书是N年前买的原版，作者闵安琪据传是陈冲的同学，文革期间被迫离开中国。作为一个中国人能用非母语的英语写成词汇、句法如此丰富的故事实属不易。作者用近乎给慈禧翻案的笔触塑造了一个渴求爱情、望子成龙的女性形象。她渴望拥有至高权利的男人的爱因此入宫；渴望自己的儿子能像个男人、帝王一样掌管权利但又恨铁不成钢因此开始垂帘听政，但身边的两个男人都让她失望了，也在中国这个男权的封建社会里留下了千古骂名。我对慈禧的认知完全停留在历史课本里，但很欣赏作者的写作功力，将一个勇敢又自私的女性写得如此栩栩如生。总体感觉是写给外国人看的，里面的咸丰帝以及垂帘听政的细节看着像极了野史。题外话：里面描写美女的形容词好多吖~~

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## 书评

我不知道为什么，我曾经想抛开一切历史上对慈禧的偏见，只拿这本当个女人的故事看，可是总是觉得脱不了那些干系。可能作者写给对中国历史不是那么感情投入的外国人，也许还可以得到点共鸣。我，可能已经被洗脑很久了，看不惯了。  
换个角度想想，当年我看法国最后的皇后marie-a...

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dear ange: haha so happy to wirte to you, and i 'm read your mail, i think you are not very will, right? if you have something in your deep heart, you can say it to me, i will be a good hearer. maybe you will happy after you said all the boring things...

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