

# Stories from a Ming Collection

"A mixture of luscious humanity and a shrewd weighing of human nature . . . that bridges the centuries with surprising naturalness."—*Time*



**STORIES**

**from a**

**MING**

**COLLECTION**

**THE ART OF THE CHINESE STORYTELLER**

*Compiled by Feng Menglong  
Translated by Cyril Birch*

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The popularity of the Chinese storyteller goes back to the marketplace of the T' ang dynasty, but the familiar figure came into its own in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. This selection of stories from Feng Menglong's collection, *Stories Old and New* (originally published in 1624), includes representative types of the storyteller's traditional art. "The Pearl-Sewn Shirt" is a cautionary romance describing the tragedy of a broken marriage; the heroic biography, which depicts a neglected man of high worth gradually receiving recognition, is represented by "Wine and Dumplings"; an authentic twelfth-century forerunner of the detective story is found in "The Canary Murders." The other tales concern traffic in the supernatural, didactic admonitions to observe morality in sex and loyalty in friendship, and realistic accounts of the meanness and corruption of official life. Also includes "The Lady Who Was a Beggar," "The Journey of the Corpse," "The Story of Wu Pao-an," and "The Fairy's Rescue."

作者介绍:

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## 标签

小说

历史

文化

## 评论

Summer  
School时候看的~故事都特别有意思。以后有机会一定要把冯梦龙系列都看掉。

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很有意思 要读三言二拍

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## 书评

话本真是个讨喜的形式。  
明朝民间。婚嫁，生活，性爱，自由，和人性的善良却稚嫩，都反映地如此细致入微。  
生活，不经一点变味地赤裸呈现，如此真实如此可爱。现在才发现自己有多厌恶读一些  
带有明显也好隐晦也好的政治色彩或者商业色彩或者任何以说教为目的而扭曲了生活原  
貌...

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