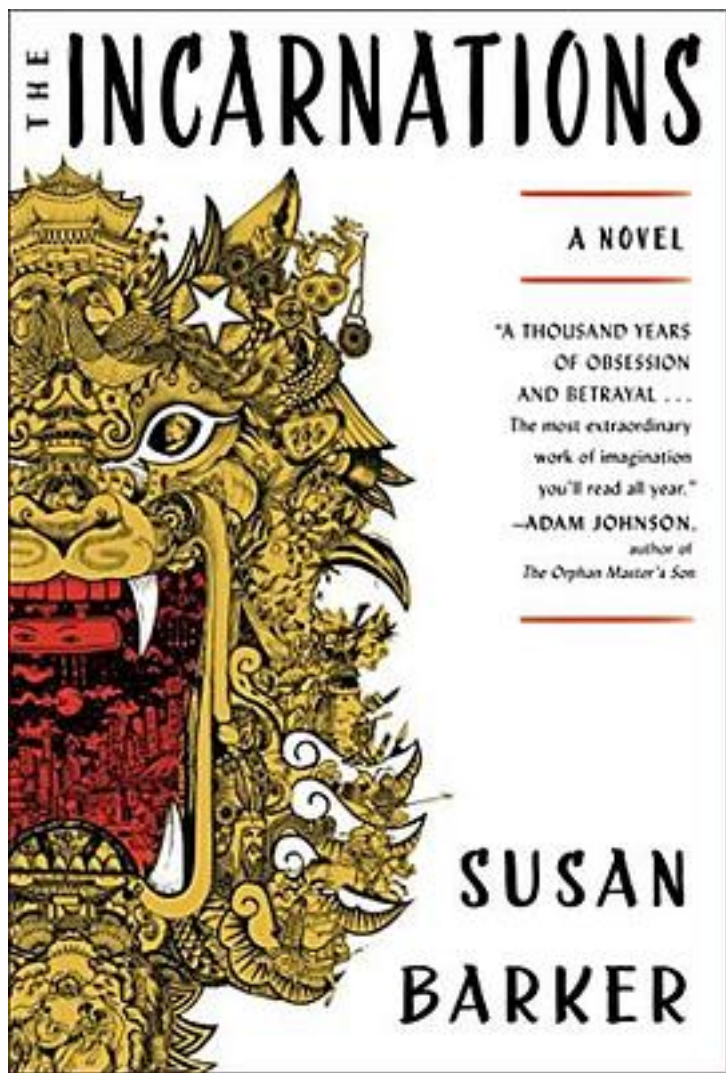


The Incarnations



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著者:Susan Barker

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Beijing, 2008, the Olympics are coming, but as taxi driver Wang circles the city's congested streets, he feels barely alive. His daily grind is suddenly interrupted when he finds a letter in the sunshade of his cab. Someone is watching him. Someone who claims to be his soulmate and to have known him for over a thousand years.

Other letters follow, taking Wang back in time: to a spirit-bride in the Tang Dynasty; to young slaves during the Mongol invasion; to concubines plotting to kill the emperor; to a kidnapping in the Opium War; and to Red Guards during the Cultural revolution.

And with each letter, Wang feels the watcher in the shadows growing closer ...

作者介绍:

Susan Barker (born 1978) is a British novelist. She has an English father and a Chinese-Malaysian mother and grew up in East London. She is the author of the novel *Sayonara Bar*, which Time magazine called "a cocktail of astringent cultural observations, genres stirred and shaken, subplots served with a twist" and *The Orientalist* and *the Ghost*, both longlisted for the Dylan Thomas Prize.

Her third novel *The Incarnations* is about a taxi driver in contemporary Beijing and interwoven with tales from the Tang dynasty, the invasion of Genghis Khan, the Ming dynasty, the Opium War, and the Cultural Revolution. While writing *The Incarnations* she spent several years living in Beijing, researching modern and imperial China.

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标签

中国

历史

小说

文化

英文原版

(English)

评论

外国人来写当下中国，切开中国血管，微观层面展现中国的何伟被视为极有野心，Susan B的野心不小于何伟。她想写中国人，写千百年来中国人为了生存可以如何没有底线不择手段，又盲目崇拜一些信仰，比如父亲的爱，君王的宠，恋人的绝对被控制，阉割的太监觉得伺候皇帝是一种荣誉，誉满京城的妓女为了寻找父亲任人宰割，从俘虏途中逃生的同性恋人的恋人，皇帝指使一个嫔妃刀割另一个嫔妃，相杀相虐相互背叛。小说用08年北京一个出租车的前世今生串起了六个时代背景：唐朝、金朝、明朝、清朝、文革和2008年，构成了一种强烈的魔幻现实主义。特点很鲜明。扣两星，一是政治隐喻太强烈，有汉娜阿特伦纳《极权主义的世界》之感，另文笔实在欠加，故事镶嵌不够紧密，中间试图跳过一段故事，丝毫不影响整体上的阅读和感受。

外国人写给外国人看的中国网络穿越小说，作者真是对自己的文笔自恋到爆，看到结尾想揍她一顿。

概括一下就是两个精神病人的千古情仇 中间部分的轮回写的好拖沓
最后三分之一还有点意思 有一点好奇的是 大部分人名都是中文名翻译的名字
唯独Echo是英文名

好看

7封信分别讲述了独立的唐，金，明，清，文革不同时代你和我的相爱相杀，其中乱伦，阴婚，太监，妓女，神婆，暴君，宫斗，屠城，同性恋，精神病，海民，外国佬，官僚等元素结合的酣畅淋漓，每个故事结尾都出乎意料，人物情感张力充沛，背景人物出租车司机王军和父亲，母亲，继母，妻子，同性恋爱人之间情感冲突高潮迭起，一切前世今生的铺垫会给读者以“你与我是灵魂伴侣”的感觉，直到结尾才终于披露了第三个与他们一直纠缠的灵魂，作为小说真的是想象奇艺，文笔细腻，画风奇特，好看好玩儿，同时也不失对中国社会官僚体制的批判和历史糟粕的鄙视。入选2015年纽约时报百大精彩书单，英文原版对很多中文词语的翻译相当有趣

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书评

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