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To The Sky Kingdom



Synopsis

When the immortal Bai Qian finally meets her intended husband, the heir to the Sky Throne, she considers herself in luck—until an old enemy returns to threaten everything she holds dear. When a mortal woman enters the immortal world to be with her true love, she sparks a jealousy that ends in tragedy. And when a war god depletes his spiritual energy, his devoted student sustains his body with her own heart's blood until the god's scattered soul reassembles. Spanning a thousand years of tangled lives, *To the Sky Kingdom* is a story of epic battles, passion, evil, and magic. In its journey across worlds and time, it delves into the powerful forces that drive mortals and gods alike toward revenge, loyalty—and love.

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Customer Reviews

Tang Qi is a writer of fantasy and romance novels. Her works include *Life Is a Flower That Blooms Twice* and *The Nine Realms: Hua Xuyin*. Poppy Toland is a freelance literary translator who studied Chinese at Leeds University. While living in Beijing, she worked as an editor for *Time Out Beijing* and as a field research supervisor for the BBC's *Wild China* television series. Toland is now based primarily in London. She wishes to thank Nala Changjing Liu for her help with the translation.

The biggest tragedy of *Peach Blossom* comes when it ends. Western fiction, especially fantasy, has become very repetitive—generally retelling the same stories or same characters over and over again. We in the west have once again become obsessed with heroes and heroines who are

flawless and idealized. Our heroes and heroines are perfect, brilliant, amazing, the best at what they do, they do no wrong-- and that makes for a very tedious, boring read. What made Peach blossom stand out was that it embraced a heroine who had strong points and weak points both; she could be clever and witty, she could be vain and proud. Her charm and wit sometimes saving her, and her faults often lead to disaster. In the end, the story's tragedy comes not from some generic outside villain like in contemporary western fantasy, but rather because of the faults of the two leads- Quian's pride and Yen Hua's deception. The story follows along a beautiful dramatic arc- moments of tragedy are painful because they are contrasted against moments of humor, moments of heartbreak are painful because they are contrasted against moments of love. Rather than following the stale pattern of contemporary western fantasy novels where a perfect, flawless hero has to go up against an evil foe only to come out victorious in the end, Peach Blossom follows a painfully human trajectory of mistakes, successes, loss and redemption. This is truly an epic adventure, and the first book that has made me cry in a long, long time. Through its rich world building, a westerner can catch glimpses of the rich world of Chinese folklore- rituals of Taoism, the disciplines of Buddhist teachings, and ancient Chinese myths play a large part in the story and catches the imagination and curiosity of any westerner who might not be familiar with those things. As I said, the tragedy in Peach Blossom comes when you realise it's over. After being given a glimpse into the remarkable world of Chinese fantasy and mythology, one yearns for more- but unfortunately, there is a great lack of Chinese fantasy novels and romances available in the western market. If this mere glimpse into popular Chinese literature is anything to go by, then clearly it has so many wonderful and unique and amazing qualities that most Westerners will never have access to. As western writers have made an impact on the world with stories like Harry Potter and Robin Hood that have crossed the boundaries of countries and introduced foreign nations to English folktales, imagine how far Chinese authors might go in introducing the world to China's beautiful and unique literary voice and rich literary and mythological heritage. There are Western writers who have tried to write stories about Chinese legends or set in China, but the written Chinese voice is inimitable. There's a cadence unique to the Mandarin writer or the Cantonese writer that, when well translated, carries across the ocean. It is a beautiful, unique voice. And if western fantasy is currently lacking in anything, it is very much lacking in beauty and uniqueness. The bitterness that comes at the end of Peach Blossom is not just because of the story's bittersweet end, but because we don't know how long it will be until another Chinese novel of this quality might be made available to us. I have read that this book is plagiarized. I have read that this book isn't even among the best Chinese fantasy has to offer. Right now, this is among the best (and only) examples of xianxia romance literature

available to the English market. If there is more, better, then please- let all the happy, excited reviews show how eager we are for more Chinese fiction!

It is a decent story, but sloppily translated. Also, it may be plagiarized from another novel. I'm terribly disappointed that I bought it.

it is very different, with all the many characters and gods and goddess . I liked the book but at times hard to remember all the characters.

Great book and fun read. The drama does justice to the book and the characters are all so vibrant and alive.

This is the English translation of one of my favorite C-novels. I read this after I watched the drama adaptation. Although there was not much dialogue, I feel that the characters interesting personalities and unique settings were enough to keep me engaged.

Love it! Might be confusing for some who aren't used to this style of writing, where the book is not in chronological order and uses lots of flash backs to tell the story. Highly recommend watching the drama adaption for this book also!

I have watched the Drama - Ten Miles of Peach Blossoms, before I read the novel. I also enjoyed this novel but as others say, there are many loopholes in the time sequence, same goes with the drama. The translation was also good, but the epilogue about Ye Hua was not included. Try this, its entertaining.

I love the drama so I bought this book understand more about. Book was good I enjoyed reading it.

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