



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

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BESTSELLING AUTHOR LISA SEE READS FROM SHANGHAI GIRLS AT THE SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY

A novel about two sisters, two cultures, and the struggle to find a new life in America

SAN DIEGO – The City of San Diego Public Library and San Diego Writers, Ink will host an author talk by best-selling author Lisa See. Ms. See is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Peony in Love*, *Snow Flower and the Secret Fan*, *Flower Net* (an Edgar Award nominee), *The Interior*, and *Dragon Bones*, as well as the critically acclaimed memoir *On Gold Mountain*. See will introduce her newest book, *Shanghai Girls*, on Wednesday, July 1 at 6:30p.m. in 3rd floor auditorium of the Central Library, located at 820 E Street in downtown San Diego. The event is FREE to the public and complimentary parking is available courtesy of Five Star Parking at the lots adjacent to the Library on the southeast corners of Broadway at 8th and 9th avenues.

In 1937, Shanghai is the Paris of Asia, a city of great wealth and glamour, the home of millionaires and beggars, gangsters and gamblers, patriots and revolutionaries, artists and warlords. This is the rich setting for Lisa See's highly anticipated new novel, *Shanghai Girls*.

Thanks to the financial security and material comforts provided by their father's prosperous rickshaw business, twenty-one-year-old Pearl Chin and her younger sister, May, are having the time of their lives. Though both sisters wave off authority and tradition, they could not be more different: Pearl is a Dragon sign, strong and stubborn, while May is a true Sheep, adorable and placid. Both are beautiful, modern, and carefree . . . until one day their father surprises them with information that will change the course of their lives.

Suspenseful, provocative, elegantly written, *Shanghai Girls* is at once a story about the adventures of two particular sisters and a story that reminds us all of the intense love, tension,

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and struggle inherent in every family. Copies of the book will be available for purchase at the event courtesy of Warwick's Bookstore.

Ms. See was born in Paris but grew up in Los Angeles, and spent much of her time in Chinatown. Her first book, *On Gold Mountain: The One Hundred Year Odyssey of My Chinese-American Family* (1995), was a national bestseller and a New York Times Notable Book. While collecting the details for *On Gold Mountain*, she developed the idea for her first novel, *Flower Net* (1997), which was a national bestseller, a New York Times Notable Book, and on the Los Angeles Times Best Books List for 1997. *Flower Net* was also nominated for an Edgar award for best first novel. This was followed by two more mystery-thrillers, *The Interior* (2000) and *Dragon Bones* (2003). This series inspired critics to compare Ms. See to Upton Sinclair, Dashiell Hammett, and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

In addition to writing books, Ms. See was the *Publishers Weekly* West Coast Correspondent for thirteen years. Working as a freelance journalist, Lisa's articles have appeared in *Vogue*, *Self*, and *More*, as well as in numerous book reviews around the country. Ms. See was honored as National Woman of the Year by the Organization of Chinese American Women in 2001 and was the recipient of the Chinese American Museum's History Makers Award in Fall 2003.

San Diego Writers, Ink nurtures writers and those wishing to explore the craft of writing, in addition to fostering a literary community, promoting literature and celebrating artistic diversity. There is information about this organization online at www.sandiegowriters.org.

Learn about other events at the San Diego Public Library's Central Library and 35 branches, find links to numerous additional resources, or search for materials in the Library's catalog online at www.sandiegolibrary.org

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