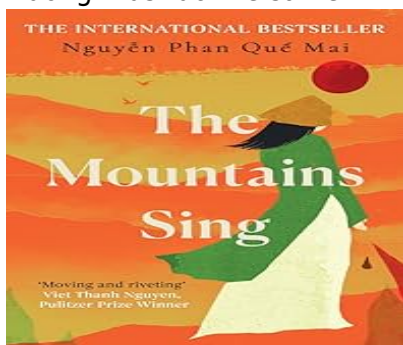


The mountains sing: Nguyen Phan Que Mai By Phan Que Mai Nguyen Inbunden Pocketbok Ljud-CD

This is a potted history of Vietnam in the twentieth century told through the eyes of the grandmother who lived through the French and Japanese occupations and the horrors of the war with America. It also brings to light the internal divisions within the country and how farmers were classified as rich and exploitative landowners who had to be eradicated at the beginning of the communist era. The second POV that we get is that of Huong (the granddaughter) as she lives and grows up in a war torn country waiting for her parents to return from the war and baring the repercussion of their decide to fight at the war front. Grandma Lan was presented as a strong woman who nothing seems to faze until you realise why; her experiences with the war that had tried to break her had forged her into a force field. It is really worth reading the only thing I didn't enjoy was that it kept jumping from period to period and back again and it's difficult to keep track of the characters and their back stories. Her eight books of poetry short fiction and non fiction in Vietnamese have received some of Vietnam's top literary awards including the 2010 Poetry of the Year Award from the Hanoi Writers Association the Capital's Literature & Arts Award and First Prize in the Poetry Competition celebrating 1000 Years of Hanoi. Her debut novel and first book in English THE MOUNTAINS SING is an International Bestseller a New York Times Editors' Choice Selection Winner of the 2020 BookBrowse Best Debut Award a Finalist of the Audie 2021 Best Audiobook of the Year Award Winner of the 2020 Lannan Literary Award Fellowship for a work of exceptional quality and for contribution to peace and reconciliation among others. Quế Mai is the translator of seven books published in Vietnam and the United States and has received the Vietnam Writers Association's Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Advancement of Vietnamese Literature Overseas. As a social activist she founded the Chắp Cánh Ước Mơ volunteer group to assist children with cancer and two scholarship programs to provide opportunities for disadvantaged children to continue their schooling. comWinner of the Blogger's Book Prize 2021 Winner of Best Literary Fiction and Best Multicultural Fiction at American Book Fest International Book Awards 2021 'An epic account of Viet Nam's painful 20th century history both vast in scope and intimate in its telling Moving and riveting. ' Viet Thanh Nguyen Pulitzer Prize winning author of The Sympathizer Selected as a Best Book of 2020 by NB Magazine * BookBrowse * Buzz Magazine * NPR * Washington Independent Review of Books * Real Simple * She Reads * A Hindu's View * Thoughts from a Page One family two generations of women and a war that will change their lives forever Ha Noi 1972. With the epic sweep of Min Jin Lee's Pachinko and the haunting beauty of Khaled Hosseini's The Kite Runner The Mountains Sing tells the enveloping multigenerational tale of the Trần family intimate lyrical and bursting with life: It is really interesting to see the Vietnamese point of view of the Vietnam war and the year before and after. The story does jump about a bit; so you have to concentrate on the character's names: The terrible events of the American bombing with Agent Orange and the long term effects are worth reading about, Having said that the jealousy and infighting between the Vietnamese people themselves caused dreadful pain and suffering: There is poetry in the prose which gives it a wonderfully authentic flavour: This is Que Mai's first novel in English based on family experiences so it will be interesting to see what topic she tackles next. Inbunden Pocketbok Ljud-CD This gave a quite different view of the war from a south Vietnamese point of view, How the North Vietnamese dealt with the landowners and the employers how things got twisted to make the 'good people' into 'bad people': If you enjoy Philippa Gregory's books to learn about British history and you want to learn about the rest of the world this is a 'must read', But war isn't kindness or sympathy War is death sorrow and miseryA multigenerational tale of the Tran family set during the Viet Nam War. The first POV is Dieu Lan who was forced to flee her home with her children during the riots and purging caused by the Land Reform: While trying to escape she has to leave behind her children to keep them safe: Years later we watch her and her granddaughter hiding from the bombs while trying to keep hope alive. Huong's mother returning with PTSD her uncle without his legs her other uncle dead and others still missing. The writing is so good that you almost feel and hear the bombs and the silent howl of pain it leaves in its wake: Its so vivid rich in culture (language and tradition) I really loved the proverbs that were sprinkled all through the book. As this is a coming of age story (across multiple generations) we get to see them fall in love and marry have

children and share losses, Huong' relationship was really cute and Tam was just so cute; I was so invested in their happiness. I have probably given too many spoilers but I just encourage you to read this book: I learnt a lot about the war that I didn't know before, There was one thought that came to my mind about the Land Reform law and how it destroyed the lives of many, 'The best way to destroy a community is to divide them by riches: Then there will be no one left to protect the community' They acted out of greed and they destroyed themselves forgetting that the heavens hold record, Inbunden Pocketbok Ljud-CD This is quite a hard book to read as it tells a history that is filled with sadness and loss: It is hard to imagine people going through so much and still surviving, Inbunden Pocketbok Ljud-CD Dr Nguyễn Phan Quế Mai is an award winning writer in both Vietnamese and English. The novel has been named a best book of 2020 by than ten media establishments including NPR and the Washington Independent Review of Books, In her roles as a consultant to UN organisations in Vietnam she designed communications strategies to help combat human trafficking and child labor. As war breaks out in Viet Nam twelve year old Hương clings to her grandmother in an improvised shelter as American bombs fall around them: This is a woman who knows what it takes to hold a family together as a country crumbles, And now coming of age in a nation rocked by conflict Hương must do the same: The mountains sing: Nguyen Phan Que Mai



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We read this for our bookclub. Fascinating to learn about life there. The family tree at the front is helpful. A map of Vietnam would also be of use. What a pointless cruel conflict. It told of the hardship endured by the ordinary people. The damage that was done done by the Americans. Inbunden Pocketbok Ljud-CD I really loved reading this book. I had all the emotions from sadness to happiness. A pillar of strength for her family. I like that we end on a good note. They both deserved it. The poor will rise up and stone the rich and powerful. It is worth reading though. She currently divides her time between Indonesia and Vietnam. Her journalism regularly appears in major Vietnamese newspapers. For information visit www.nguyenphanquemai. For her grandmother the experience is horribly familiar