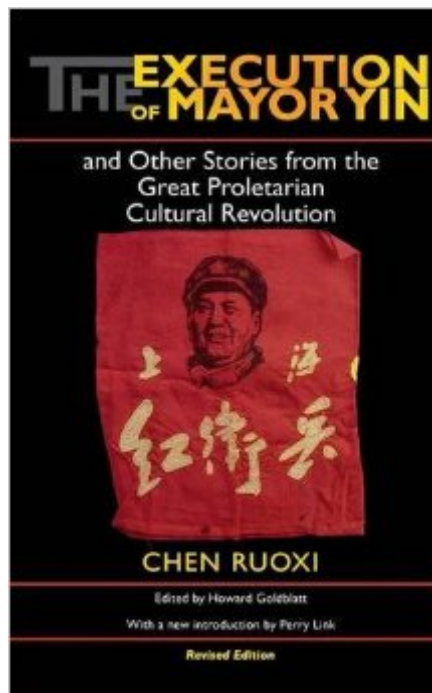


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The Execution Of Mayor Yin And Other Stories From The Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, Revised Edition



Synopsis

Praise for the first edition: "... in the great tradition of Orwell and Solzhenitsyn; its true subject is the survival and sometimes the defeat of the human spirit in its lonely quest for integrity."
"Time" "The almost childlike directness of Chen's tales... is captured in the very lightly revised translations of this new edition... Highly recommended."
"Choice" "A classic of modern world literature, this collection of stories provides a vivid and poignant eyewitness view of everyday life in China during the Cultural Revolution. For this edition, Howard Goldblatt has thoroughly revised the text and updated it to Pinyin romanization. In a new introduction, Perry Link reflects on the book's significance in the post-Tiananmen era. Twenty-five years after its first publication, The Execution of Mayor Yin has lost none of its power to move the reader, and remains unmatched as a document of the period."

Book Information

Paperback: 202 pages

Publisher: Indiana University Press; Revised edition (July 21, 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0253216907

ISBN-13: 978-0253216908

Product Dimensions: 5 x 0.6 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars See all reviews (1 customer review)

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Customer Reviews

I was quite impressed by this collection of tales by Chen, and even more so by the fact that they could be read almost effortlessly, unburdened by superfluous stylistic hoo-hah. It seems that much of the material relates to the aftermath of the Cultural Revolution rather than to said revolution per se. One gleans a strong picture of the frustratingly mixed messages that the Chinese masses perpetually receive from their government; the untold difficulty of living up to Mao's expectations (whatever they might have been in his heart of hearts); the disgust that good people feel in the level of spying and prying that seems expected of them; and, perhaps most chillingly, of the ubiety of the Communist party apparatus that ensures that every grouping of individuals--whether by tens,

hundreds, whole factories, communes, or large cities--is firmly under the heel of the putatively socialist autocracy. All in all, the work was informative and fascinating.

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