



The Valley of Amazement

By Tan, Amy.

Ecco. 1 Cloth(s), 2013. hard. Book Condition: New. Spanning more than 40 years, this sweeping epic from the author of *The Joy Luck Club* and *Saving Fish from Drowning* moves from the lavish parlors of Shanghai courtesans and a backwater hamlet in China to the estates of the Hudson River Valley. The lives of Violet, the privileged daughter of the American madam in the city's most exclusive courtesan house, and her mother Lucia, who 15 years earlier followed a Chinese painter from San Francisco to Shanghai, are set against the collapse of China's last imperial dynasty, the inner workings of courtesan houses, and the lives of the foreign "Shanghailanders" living in the International Settlement, all erased by World War II. "Tan's prodigious, sumptuously descriptive, historically grounded, sexually candid, and elaborately plotted novel counters violence, exploitation, betrayal, and tragic cultural divides with beauty, wit, and transcendent friendship between women." *Booklist* (starred review) "This utterly engrossing novel is highly recommended to all readers who appreciate an author's ability to transport them to a new world they will not forget. As a plus, this reviewer sensed the harbinger of a sequel by the last page." *Library Journal* (starred review) 589.



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