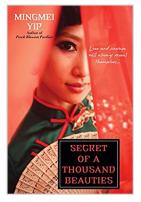
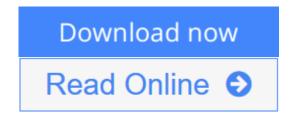
# Secret of a Thousand Beauties



By Mingmei Yip



#### Secret of a Thousand Beauties By Mingmei Yip

Set against the vibrant and intrigue-laden backdrop of 1930s China, Mingmei Yip's enthralling novel explores one woman's defiant pursuit of independence.

Spring Swallow was promised in marriage while still in her mother's belly. When the groom dies before a wedding can take place, seventeen-year-old Spring Swallow is ordered to become a ghost bride to appease his spirit. Under her inlaws' protection, she will be little more than a servant, unable to know real love or bear children. Refusing to accept her fate as a "bad-luck woman," Spring Swallow flees on her wedding day.

In the city of Soochow, Spring Swallow joins a community of renowned embroiderers. The women work for Aunty Peony, whose exquisite stitching once earned her the Emperor's love. But when Aunty Peony agrees to replicate a famous painting--a lucrative assignment that will take a year to complete-betrayal and jealousy emerges within the group. Spring Swallow becomes entangled in each woman's story of heartbreak, even while she embarks on a dangerous affair with a young revolutionary. On a journey that leads from the remote hillsides around Soochow to cosmopolitan Peking, Spring Swallow draws on the secret techniques learned from Aunty Peony and her own indomitable strength, determined to forge a life that is truly her own.

#### Praise For The Novels Of Mingmei Yip

"A unique and enthralling style. . .flawless." –*Baltimore Books Examiner* on *The Nine Fold Heaven* 

"Surprising and often funny. . ..Part epic, part coming-of-age story, part modern fairy tale." --*Publishers Weekly* on *Song of the Silk Road* 

"A serious, engaging story of faith, devotion, and the commingling of cultures." *–Booklist* on *Petals From the Sky* 

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# **Editorial Review**

#### Review

Yip is truly a master. Everything about this story was enthralling...strong, memorable characters, unique setting...an emotional roller coaster. -- *Examiner.com* 

Fans will enjoy this emotionally poignant novel."-- Booklist

Boundless energy that propels the reader to gratifying conclusion. - *Kirkus Reviews:* Intriguing backdrop...The first person narrative perfectly matches Yip's heroine's thoughts as she strives to find a safe life and love in a changing world. - *RT Book Reviews*, 4 Stars

Rich in detail... should please readers - Authorlink.com

#### About the Author

Mingmei Yip began writing and painting during her childhood in Hong Kong. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Paris (Sorbonne) and has studied the traditional Chinese arts of Tai Chi, Qin music, Buddhist sacred chant and calligraphy. Mingmei has collaborated with Carnegie Hall and the New York Metropolitan Museum of Art. She is the author of four novels and of the popular "Chinese Children's Favorite Stories". She lives in New York City.

# **Users Review**

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## **Donna Jennings:**

Why don't make it to become your habit? Right now, try to ready your time to do the important action, like looking for your favorite e-book and reading a guide. Beside you can solve your trouble; you can add your knowledge by the e-book entitled Secret of a Thousand Beauties. Try to make the book Secret of a Thousand Beauties as your good friend. It means that it can to be your friend when you sense alone and beside that course make you smarter than ever before. Yeah, it is very fortuned for yourself. The book makes you a lot more confidence because you can know everything by the book. So , let us make new experience and also knowledge with this book.

#### **Robert Shelby:**

This Secret of a Thousand Beauties is great publication for you because the content that is certainly full of information for you who always deal with world and still have to make decision every minute. This particular book reveal it facts accurately using great arrange word or we can claim no rambling sentences within it. So if you are read the item hurriedly you can have whole details in it. Doesn't mean it only will give you straight forward sentences but hard core information with attractive delivering sentences. Having Secret of a Thousand Beauties in your hand like obtaining the world in your arm, facts in it is not ridiculous 1. We can say that no guide that offer you world with ten or fifteen tiny right but this book already do that. So , this is certainly good reading book. Heya Mr. and Mrs. active do you still doubt that?

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