

Contemporary Asian American Film

Better Luck Tomorrow

Directed by Justin Lin, 2003

To his classmates and teachers, high-schooler Ben Manibag appears to be the model student. But underneath this persona is a darker side -- Ben and his bored high-school buddies lead double lives, flying high in a world of petty crime and material excess in order to ease the pressures of being perfect. *DVD F Bet*

Double Happiness

Directed by Mina Shum, 1994

Jade Li is a feisty, 20 something Chinese Canadian, trying to achieve that happy medium between giving in to her parent's wishes and fulfilling her own needs and desires - double happiness. *DVD F Dou*

The Grace Lee Project

Directed by Grace Lee, 2005

Pursuing the moving target of Asian-American female identity, filmmaker Lee, in a clever, highly unscientific investigation visits with a myriad of Asian American women named "Grace Lee". With wit and charm, the film puts a hilarious spin on the eternal question "What's in a name?" *DVD 305.4 Gra*

Shanghai Kiss

Directed by David Ren, 2006

A struggling actor, in love with a young high school student, must travel to Shanghai after his grandmother passes away and leaves him the family home. Can his new love survive the cultural differences and a large age gap?
DVD F Sha

Contemporary Asian American Non-Fiction

Charlie Chan is Dead 2: At Home in the World

Edited by Jessica Hagedorn, 2004

Classically separate from America's "melting pot," Asian immigrants have joined forces to combat racism and social injustice despite enormous differences among them in ethnicity, education, and income levels, a diversity well reflected in the fiction showcased here. *Non-F 813.54 Cha*

Suburban Sahibs

S. Mitra Kalita, 2003

In the late nineteenth century, tourists descended upon Edison to gawk at its Christmas lights displays. Today, thousands of Indians from all over the United States arrive in the same bedroom community to celebrate their own festivals of lights and colors. *Suburban Sahibs* attempts to answer the question of how and why they arrived, and offers a window into a nation of suburbs as well as a nation of immigrants. *Non-F 929.2 Kal*

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Recommendations from our Librarians

Prepared by Ji Hae Ju

Asian American Books & Film



All Over Creation

Ruth Ozeki, 2003

Returning home to the Idaho potato farm she fled twenty-five years earlier, Yumi struggles with her father's Alzheimer's, her former best friend, and a former lover who once offended the town. *F Oze, CD F Oze*

Free Food For Millionaires

Min Jin Lee, 2007

Casey Han's four years at Princeton have given her a refined diction, an enviable golf handicap, a popular white boyfriend, and a magna cum laude degree in economics. Her parents are Korean immigrants desperately trying to hold onto their culture and identity, while Casey navigates New York's world of haves and have-nots.

F Lee, CD F Lee

The Love Wife

Gish Jen, 2004

Carnegie Wong has a WASP wife, two adopted Asian daughters, and a half-half biological son. His mother has arranged from her grave for a mainland Chinese relation to come look after the kids. This novel explores what happens as Carnegie tries to incorporate the new arrival into his already complicated life.

F Jen, CD F Jen, Downloadable Audio Book

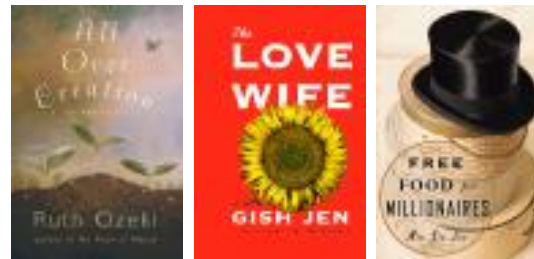


Contemporary Asian American Fiction

A Person of Interest

Susan Choi, 2008

Tenured math professor Lee has been teaching at a midwestern university for ages, yet he is utterly isolated within a web of anger and regret. When the popular young department star is gravely injured by a mail bomb, Lee is completely undone when he becomes a person of interest to the FBI. How he handles the hostility of his colleagues and the invasion of his privacy by the government and the press is the engine that drives this suspenseful novel. *F Cho*



Serving Crazy With Curry

Amulya Malladi, 2004

Interspersed with mouthwatering recipes, this story mixes humor, warmth, and leap-off-the-page characters into a rich stew of a novel that reveals a woman's struggle for acceptance from her family and herself. *F Mal*

Somebody's Daughter

Marie Myung-Ok Lee, 2005

Adopted by a Midwest couple, 19-year-old Sarah Thorson studies one summer in Korea and eventually embarks on a crusade to find her birth mother.

F Lee, YA F Lee



The Space Between Us

Thrity Umrigar, 2005

A searing novel that vividly captures the delicate balance of class and gender in contemporary India, as witnessed through the lives of an upper-middle-class Parsi housewife and her stoic, illiterate domestic worker.

F Umr

Translations of Beauty

Mia Yun, 2004

Set in Korea, Italy and New York, this powerful, raw and thought-provoking story of Korean-born identical twin sisters tells of their early tragedy and their desperate efforts to negotiate both their identities and relationship to one another. *F Yun*

Unaccustomed Earth

Jhumpa Lahiri, 2008

Lahiri delivers eight dazzling stories that take readers from Cambridge and Seattle to India and Thailand as they explore the secrets at the heart of family life. *F Lah*

When the Emperor Was Divine

Julie Otsuka, 2003

This story told from five different points of view, chronicles the experiences of Japanese Americans caught up in the nightmare of the World War II internment camps.

F Ots, LP F Ots