

"Andrew Lam writes with the honesty of a true journalist and the feeling of a born storyteller."—MAXINE HONG KINGSTON, AUTHOR OF *The Fifth Book of Peace*



Reflections
on the
Vietnamese
Diaspora

Perfume Dreams

Andrew Lam

foreword by
Richard Rodríguez

Perfume Dreams Reflections On The Vietnamese Diaspora

K Morrison



Perfume Dreams Reflections On The Vietnamese Diaspora:

Perfume Dreams Andrew Lam, 2019-05-03 Much will be made and rightly so of the eloquent commentary Lam's essays provide on Vietnam and the Vietnamese a fascinating and important book Robert Olen Butler Pulitzer Prize winning author A PEN American Beyond Margins Award winner In his long overdue first collection of essays noted journalist and NPR commentator Andrew Lam explores his lifelong struggle for identity as a Viet Kieu or a Vietnamese national living abroad At age eleven Lam the son of a South Vietnamese general came to California on the eve of the fall of Saigon to communist forces He traded his Vietnamese name for a more American one and immersed himself in the allure of the American dream something not clearly defined for him or his family Reflecting on the meanings of the Vietnam War to the Vietnamese people themselves particularly to those in exile Lam picks with searing honesty at the roots of his doubleness and his parents longing for a homeland that no longer exists Lam shatters the assumptions of readers who have encountered the Vietnam experience only through American pop culture He writes with the delicacy and intensity of a poet Los Angeles Times Book Review Andrew Lam writes with the honesty of a true journalist and the feeling of a born storyteller On his many journeys between Vietnam and the U S he sees first hand the global consequences of war *Perfume Dreams* is a meaningful book for our times Maxine Hong Kingston national bestselling author of *The Woman Warrior* Lam's insights into Asian American life are reflected in candid witty anecdotes that reveal much about the difficulties of living in two cultures *Audrey Magazine*

The Vietnamese Diaspora in a Transnational Context, 2022-02-14 The Vietnamese diaspora is now a truly global diaspora This collection one of the first of its kind traces the Vietnamese diaspora's multifaceted roots in late 19th and early 20th century French colonialism the end of the War in Vietnam and economic migrations to fellow communist states in the 1970s and 1980s Out of these migrations Vietnamese communities have now formed in many of the major immigrant receiving countries around the world This collection traces the connection between the historically traumatic forms of dispersal from Vietnam and today's transnational Vietnamese communities It considers questions about how conditions of exit from Vietnam shape Vietnamese diaspora identities and patterns of settlement and economic integration It also addresses questions of how memory politics shape the ways in which various segments of the Vietnamese diaspora engage with contemporary Vietnam and shape what is now an intergenerational diaspora Contributors are Tamsin Barber Gisele Bousquet Tuan Hoang Gertrude H welmeier C N Le Nathalie Huynh Chau Nguyen Vic Satzewich Ivan Small Gra yna Szyma ska Matusiewicz and Anna Vu

Encyclopedia of Asian-American Literature Seiwoong Oh, 2015-04-22 Presents a reference on Asian American literature providing profiles of Asian American writers and their works **The Gift of Freedom** Mimi Thi Nguyen, 2012-10 Mimi Thi Nguyen examines the self interested claims of the United States to provide freedom to others even as it does so by generating violence and displacement through overpowering warfare *The American Dream in Vietnamese* Nhi T. Lieu, 2011 Fantasy desire and community in Vietnamese American popular culture **Asian American History and**

Culture: An Encyclopedia Huping Ling, Allan W. Austin, 2015-03-17 With overview essays and more than 400 A Z entries this exhaustive encyclopedia documents the history of Asians in America from earliest contact to the present day Organized topically by group with an in depth overview essay on each group the encyclopedia examines the myriad ethnic groups and histories that make up the Asian American population in the United States Asian American History and Culture covers the political social and cultural history of immigrants from East Asia Southeast Asia South Asia the Pacific Islands and their descendants as well as the social and cultural issues faced by Asian American communities families and individuals in contemporary society In addition to entries on various groups and cultures the encyclopedia also includes articles on general topics such as parenting and child rearing assimilation and acculturation business education and literature More than 100 images round out the set **Memory Is Another Country** Nathalie Huynh Chau Nguyen, 2009-08-25 2010 CHOICE

Outstanding Academic Title The act of remembering is a means of bringing the past alive and an imaginative way of dealing with loss It has been the subject of much recent scholarship and is of particular relevance at a time of widespread transnational migration This book is a valuable and original contribution to the field of diaspora studies Based on in depth oral narratives of forty Vietnamese women it deals with themes both universal and specific to this diaspora divergent memories in families the significance of homeland the return to Vietnam cross cultural relationships intergenerational tensions and the issues of silence and unspoken trauma among Vietnamese refugees It is the first study to apply memory and trauma theories to a substantial base of oral narratives by Vietnamese women in the West Nguyen argues that understanding of these narratives provides not only an insight into the way Vietnamese women have dealt with loss but also illuminates the experience of the wider Vietnamese diaspora and other refugees **The City and the Ocean** I-Chun Wang, Jonathan

White, 2012-01-24 Throughout history cities have been locations of human encounter Equally they have been contexts for the trade of goods and services for the evolution of various forms of urban space and for the production development and enrichment of culture and technology Many cities grew up along shorelines which themselves constitute some of the globe s most important cultural boundaries For above all else it is water that has separated but also connected different communities races religions and nations down through recorded time With the rapid advance in technologies of communication encounters between cultures have multiplied at a rate that no individual can follow or control The present book constitutes a space of memory in its own right one of its chief raisons d tre being that a group of diverse scholars herein maps certain key encounters between peoples past as well as present and the urgent issues generated in consequence No one person could have traced such diversity and made sense of it whereas a scholarly grouping of persons reporting on phenomena from around the world such as is provided here offers its readers a vision of global change and development With the twentieth and twenty first centuries a new set of mega cities in Asia Africa and Latin America has emerged to challenge the primacy of European and North American metropolitan centres This expanded landscape is here interpreted with special attention as

already mentioned to cities located at coastlines hence generally speaking more exposed to globalizing trends Migrants exiles and refugees ethnic and racial minorities as well as alternative or countercultural groupings continue to complicate the ways in which cities articulate their now pluralized identities in terms of and by means of literature history architecture social events and other forms of artistic and cultural production The international scholars whose work is assembled in these pages are well placed to engage with the intersecting themes and issues of the volume Contributors have mapped different examples from Homeric narrative through Renaissance drama and its representation of crossways of culture such as Rhodes and Malta to an earlier time in the development of a New World city such as Boston others look at the twentieth and twenty first centuries complexity of great world cities and of oceanic migration or trade between them Shanghai Singapore London Detroit Shantou Macau and Saigon are some that are dealt with in detail Emphasis falls on both the historical reality of those contexts as well as how they have been culturally represented Lived Refuge Vinh Nguyen,2023-11-14 A free ebook version of this title is available through Luminos University of California Press s Open Access publishing program Visit www.luminosoa.org to learn more In a world increasingly shaped by displacement and migration refuge is both a coveted right and an elusive promise for millions While conventionally understood as legal protection it also transcends judicial definitions In Lived Refuge Vinh Nguyen reconceptualizes refuge as an ongoing affective experience and lived relation rather than a fixed category with legitimacy derived from the state Focusing on Southeast Asian diasporas in the wake of the Vietnam War Nguyen examines three affective experiences gratitude resentment and resilience to reveal the actively lived dimensions of refuge Through multifaceted analyses of literary and cultural productions Nguyen argues that the meaning of refuge emerges from how displaced people negotiate the kinds of safety and protection that are offered to and withheld from them In so doing he lays the framework for an original and compelling understanding of contemporary refugee subjectivity

Nothing Ever Dies Viet Thanh Nguyen,2016-04-11 Finalist National Book Critics Circle Award Finalist National Book Award in Nonfiction A New York Times Book Review The Year in Reading Selection All wars are fought twice the first time on the battlefield the second time in memory From the author of the Pulitzer Prize winning novel *The Sympathizer* comes a searching exploration of the conflict Americans call the Vietnam War and Vietnamese call the American War a conflict that lives on in the collective memory of both nations A gorgeous multifaceted examination of the war Americans call the Vietnam War and which Vietnamese call the American War As a writer Nguyen brings every conceivable gift wisdom wit compassion curiosity to the impossible yet crucial work of arriving at what he calls a just memory of this war Kate Tuttle Los Angeles Times In *Nothing Ever Dies* his unusually thoughtful consideration of war self deception and forgiveness Viet Thanh Nguyen penetrates deeply into memories of the Vietnamese war An important book which hits hard at self serving myths Jonathan Mirsky Literary Review Ultimately Nguyen s lucid arresting and richly sourced inquiry in the mode of Susan Sontag and W G Sebald is a call for true and just stories of war and its perpetual legacy Donna Seaman Booklist starred review

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