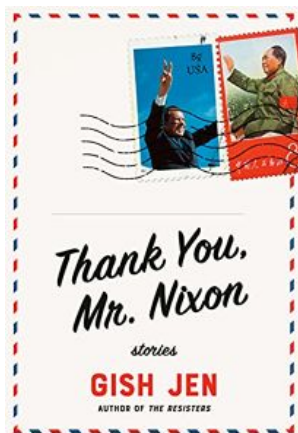


BEST
BOOKS

AUTHORS

PUBLISHERS WEEKLY



BUY THIS BOOK

★ Thank You, Mr. Nixon

Gish Jen. Knopf, \$28 (272p) ISBN 978-0-593-31989-5

Like 0

Share

Tweet

MORE BY AND ABOUT THIS AUTHOR

President Nixon's 1972 visit to China provides the context for Jen's masterly collection (after *The Resisters*), which explores the cultural wounds and generational gaps of mainlanders and Chinese Americans. In the tongue-in-cheek title story, a riff on Dante's inferno, a dead middle-aged Chinese woman named Tricia Yang writes from her perch in heaven to President Nixon, who resides in the ninth ring of Hell. Tricia recalls speaking with Nixon when she was a young girl during his 1972 visit and how Pat Nixon's famous red coat influenced her family to start their own coat manufacturing business, eventually exporting to the U.S., where the "Made in China" label elicits backlash from jingoistic consumers. In this and other stories, Jen skillfully reveals the book's main theme: is bridging differences ever truly possible? In the satirical "It's the Great Wall!" Opal Tsu, a Chinese immigrant living in the U.S., reckons with her daughter's cultural misunderstandings during a trip through China, and becomes the tour group's unofficial interpreter upon finding out that their official guide speaks little English. In this and other stories, Jen inserts a character who becomes a mediator, reluctantly translating for hapless Americans. "Rothko, Rothko" centers on the ethical dilemmas faced by a Chinese American literature professor who meets a Chinese art forger and deals with an ambitious Chinese student who takes the name Mary Ann Evans (George Eliot's original name) and commits plagiarism. With wry humor, pathos, and punchy dialogue, Jen's uncanny stories easily stand up to her hefty themes. This is a stellar addition to Jen's prolific body of work. *Agent: Daniel Kirschen, ICM Partners. (Jan.)*

DETAILS

Reviewed on : 11/02/2021

Release date: 01/25/2022

Genre: Fiction

Book - 1 pages - 978-0-593-31990-1

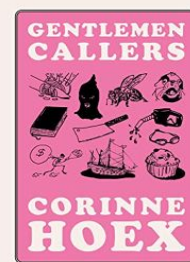
Discover what to read next
TIP SHEET

[Sign up »](#)

MORE BOOKS YOU'D LIKE



The Trouble with Happiness



Gentleman Callers



Recitatif: A Story

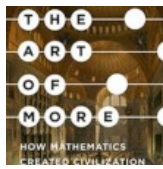


The Candy House

ADVERTISEMENT



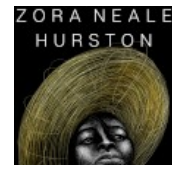
A Year In Reading: 2021



PW Picks: Books of the Week



New Pub Dates for Forthcoming Books: 2021-22



You Don't Know Zora Neale Hurston

[About Us](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Submission Guidelines](#) | [Subscriber Services](#) | [Advertising Info](#) | [Terms of Use](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Do Not Sell](#) | [Calls for Info](#) | [Editorial Calendar](#) | [Archives](#) | [Press](#) | [FAQ](#)

© PWxyz, LLC. All rights reserved.

- News**
Obituaries
Book Deals
Financial Reporting
Page to Screen
Bookselling
Awards & Prizes
Publisher News
Comics
Business Deals
Shows & Events
Cooking
People
Religion
Audio Books
Manufacturing
Marketing
PW Tip Sheet
Licensing
U.S. Book Show
- Reviews**
Fiction
Mystery/Thriller
Sci-Fi/Fantasy/Horror
Romance/Erotica
Comics
Poetry
Inspirational Fiction
Nonfiction
Lifestyle
Religion
Children's
Web Exclusive
BookLife
- Bestsellers**
Bio & Autobiography
Children's Frontlist
Fiction
Children's Picture Books
Comics
Fantasy
Food & Drink
Hardcover Frontlist
Fiction
Hardcover Frontlist
Nonfiction
History & Poli-Sci
Mass Market Frontlist
Mystery
Religion Fiction
Religion Nonfiction
Romance
Science Fiction
Top 10 Overall
Trade Paper Frontlist
- Children's**
Authors
Book News
Industry News
- Authors**
Profiles
Interviews
Why I Write
BookLife
- Announcements**
Adult Announcements
Children's
Announcements
Religion Listings
On-Sale Calendar
Galley Talk
- Digital**
Devices
Copyright
Retailing
Conferences
Content / e-books
Apps
Digital Marketplace
- The Roundup**
- International**
Deals
News
Trade Shows
Frankfurt Book Fair
London Book Fair
New York Rights Fair
Sharjah Book Fair
China Showcase
Translation Database
- Job Zone**
Job Moves
- Opinion**
ShelfTalker
Soapbox
Editorials
Common Core
Open Book

