

PDF | The Collected Novels Volume
One: Pavilion of Women, Peony, and
Imperial Woman

by Pearl S. Buck



FOREWORD BY ROBERT KIYOSAKI

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PEARL S. BUCK

THE COLLECTED NOVELS VOLUME ONE

PAVILION OF WOMEN

PEONY

IMPERIAL WOMAN

The Collected Novels VOLUME ONE

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From the Nobel Prize-winning author of *The Good Earth*: These three novels are fascinating portraits of women in China

In 1938, Pearl S. Buck became the first woman to win a Nobel Prize in Literature for *The Good Earth*, which had already earned her the Pulitzer Prize. Upon choosing Buck's novel for her book club in 2004, Oprah Winfrey said: "Reading Pearl Buck's writing feels like reading poetry to me. I just love the quiet rhythm of the words. They evoke the simple beauty of the characters and the harsh mystery of China's ancient culture." The daughter of missionaries, the *New York Times*-bestselling author would continue to explore many aspects of Chinese culture in her work, and the three novels collected in this volume represent some of her most compassionate and revealing fiction.

Pavilion of Women: This "vivid and extremely interesting novel," set in early twentieth-century China, follows an upper-class wife's quest for personal freedom (*The New Yorker*). After Madame Wu turns forty, she encourages her husband to take a young concubine so she can finally begin to discover her own mind—and a new world opens up before her as she reads forbidden books and studies English with a progressive former priest.

"Beautifully written . . . A fine, full-flavored novel." —*Newsweek*

Peony: A young Chinese bondmaid in nineteenth-century China falls in love with the son of the wealthy Jewish family she works for. As the couple's traditions collide, their relationship faces opposition from every side.

"*Peony* has the vividness of scene and episode and character and the colorful detail that [Buck's] readers have come to expect of her novels in China." *New York Herald Tribune*

Imperial Woman: In this "richly woven . . . quite absorbing" *New York Times* bestseller, Buck brings to life the story of Tzu Hsi, the magnetic and fierce-minded woman who rose

from concubine to become the working head of the Qing Dynasty and the last empress of China for nearly half a century (*The Nation*).

“Certainly, no fictioneer could imagine a more incredible woman. . . Pearl Buck has done a remarkable and painstaking job in recreating her.” — *Saturday Review*



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