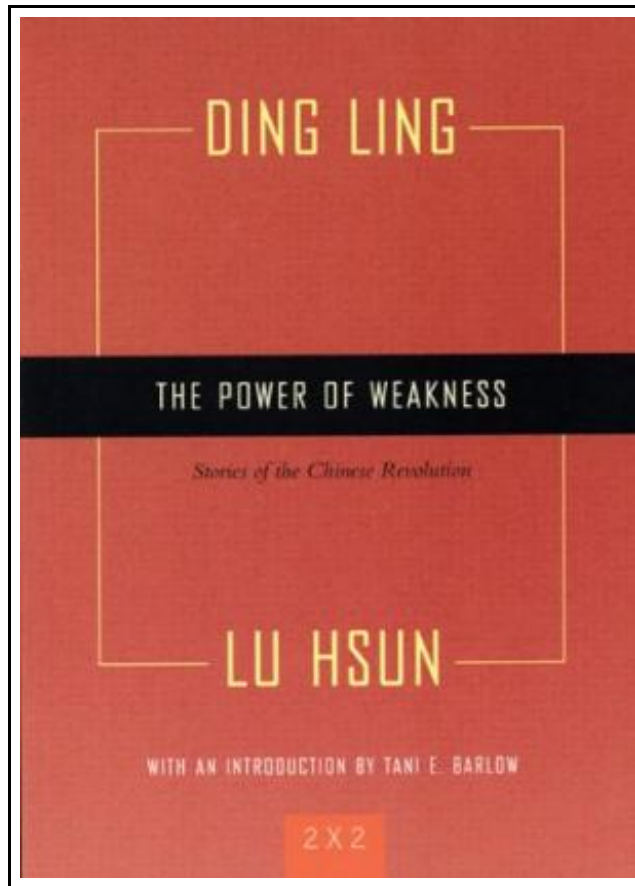


The Power of Weakness: Stories of the Chinese Revolution



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Reviews

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THE POWER OF WEAKNESS: STORIES OF THE CHINESE REVOLUTION



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Feminist Press at The City University of New York. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, The Power of Weakness: Stories of the Chinese Revolution, Ding Ling, Lu Hsun, Tani E. Barlow, Take the riveting social criticisms and literary wit of Henrik Ibsen's "A Doll House" and transplant them to Chinese soil: what emerges is this unique collection juxtaposing the works of the Chinese writing master, Lu Xun, with his literary successor, Ding Ling. Each of the works by these two astute authors carries a biting social commentary on the hypocrisies of the burgeoning Chinese state in regards to women during the first half of the twentieth century. Containing six works in total, this fascinating collection reveals the force tradition and social expectation wield in historical moments where they are being renegotiated. In his speech, "What Happens After Nora Leaves Home?" and his short stories, "New Year's Sacrifice" and "Regret for the Past", Lu Xun exposes how the anti-Confucian nationalist movement of the 1920s liberated women's thoughts beyond the constraints of tradition only to leave them the victims of social expectation and financial dependency. Ding Ling, writing in response to the clash between the nationalist and communist movements during the late twenties into the mid-forties, echoes Lu Xun's sentiments in her speech, "Thoughts on March 8 (Women's Day)", and the short stories, "New Faith" and "When I Was in Xia Village". The result is a compelling collection that questions the options created for empowered, intelligent women living in a nation still clinging to tradition.



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